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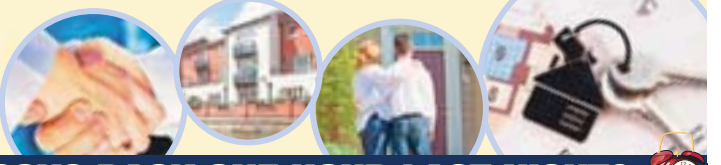
No. 318 October 26, 2008

INSIDE THIS WEEK'S PAPER

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PLUS DID YOU REMEMBER TO PUT YOUR CLOCKS BACK ONE HOUR LAST NIGHT?

TIME TO TALK WITH TALIBAN

By **STEVE KNIGHT**

THE British Army needs to work with Taliban leaders to win the war in Afghanistan, according to an influential MP.

UK troops have been fighting in the country since 2001, but Gravesham Tory MP Adam Holloway, who is a member of the defence select committee, believes progress is not being made and that the situation is getting worse.

And, speaking after a 10-day visit to the country that included stays in Helmand Province and Kabul, the former soldier said the run-up to the United States Presidential election was the perfect time for the Government to rethink its Afghan strategy and the war on terror in general.

Mr Holloway told Kent on Sunday: "You don't deal with an insurgency by military means alone, you also deal with them by political means.

"The Taliban is not just one group of crazies, it actually includes a group of tribal leaders who do not like foreign troops in their neighbourhood. We need to make a series of local deals with reconcilable Taliban leaders.

"We need to refocus our attention away from the military effort and onto the Afghan people and then we might have a chance. We need to provide them with a good government without assuming democracy is something we can build around them.

"They have very traditional structures that have worked for centuries, so it was crazy for us to think we could turn Helmand Province into Surrey in just a few years. I don't think we had any idea what we were taking on.

"Without focusing our efforts on the Afghan people, we're going to get ourselves into serious trouble."

Mr Holloway is a former Grenadier Guards officer who fought in the Gulf War and was an ITN reporter when Iraq was invaded in 2003.

He has visited Afghanistan at his own expense for the last three years, so as to avoid the "distorted picture" presented on official visits.

While Mr Holloway said the expansion of the Afghan army and its work with Nato was a "success story" and needed to be continued, he felt more needed to be done to win over the nation's people.

He said: "We are supporting an Afghan government that is seen by the entire population as being corrupt. The people do not like the Taliban either, but in much of the countryside in the south they see them perhaps as the lesser of two evils.

"In some places if somebody has a land dispute then they will go to the Taliban because they know the Taliban's judgement is likely to be fairer than the [Afghan] government's."

Mr Holloway's comments on the war are in stark contrast to those made to KoS by a senior Army source in Afghanistan back in August.

At the time he said the insurgents' switch to using suicide bombers and improvised explosive devices, rather than conventional fighting, showed the Taliban were losing the war.

Responding to Mr Holloway's comments, a spokesman for the Ministry of Defence said: "There has been progress in many areas.

"In security terms in Helmand, the major centres of population are now all firmly under Afghan government control, from Musa Qala in the north to Garmsir in the south, enabling more Afghans to have access to education, healthcare and basic infrastructures.

"We are realistic that there is still more to do and that this will take time."

Meanwhile, the Canterbury-based Argyll and Sutherland Highlanders (5 Scots) have been returning home after their six-month tour in Afghanistan.

Members of The 2nd Battalion The Royal Gurkha Rifles, based at Shorncliffe, Folkestone, were sent there late last month



RETHINK: Tory MP Adam Holloway

MP: 'It was crazy for us to think we could turn Helmand Province into Surrey in just a few years'



Picture: JAMIE McGINNES

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Kent today



TODAY: A cloudy morning with outbreaks of rain, some of which will be heavy. Fresh westerly winds. Max temp 12-15C (54-59F).
TONIGHT: It will be predominantly dry with lengthy clear spells. There will be moderate westerly winds. Min temp 4-7C (39-45F).

Around Britain

Aberdeen	fair	10	50	London	rain	12	54
Belfast	rain	10	50	Liverpool	drizzle	14	57
Birmingham	fair	8	46	Manchester	showers	13	54
B'mouth	cloudy	13	55	Newcastle	fair	10	50
Bristol	rain	15	59	Norwich	rain	14	57
Cardiff	rain	13	55	Oxford	drizzle	14	57
Cork	cloudy	12	54	Southsea	rain	15	59
Edinburgh	showers	9	48	S'hampton	rain	12	54
Glasgow	showers	10	50	Southport	sun	–	–
Isle of Man	showers	11	52	Swansea	cloudy	13	55
Leeds	rain	11	52	Torquay	rain	13	55

Sun & moon

Sunrise	Sunset	Moonrise	Moonset	Lighting up times
7.30am	6.30pm	4.30pm	3.19pm	6.30pm to 6.41am

High Tides

	Today				Tomorrow			
	AM	m	PM	m	AM	m	PM	m
Dover	00.09	6.3	21.40	6.2	09.47	6.5	22.12	6.4
Margate	10.01	4.6	22.39	4.6	10.45	4.7	23.19	4.7
St Mary's	02.40	5.1	14.09	5.4	03.21	5.3	15.38	5.5

Week ahead

monday	Sunny spells	thursday	Showers
tuesday	Sunny spells	friday	Mostly dry
wednesday	Showers	saturday	Showers

Fine crop as college goes for growth

By **JENNA PUDELEK**
jenna.pudelek@kosmedia.co.uk

A COLLEGE has seen a 15 per cent growth in the number of agriculture students, despite falling numbers choosing careers in farming nationally.

Hadlow College, near Tonbridge, which specialises in land-based studies, said demand for British-produced food has increased, but there is a shortage of skilled workers across the industry.

Mark Lumsdon-Taylor, finance director for the college, said the number of further education vocational course students had gone up from about 690 to more than 800 over the previous academic year.

"It is phenomenal," he said. "Especially when coupled with the fact we have grown 18 per cent annually since 2003."

When he started in the post five years ago there were only six agriculture students and now there are 40 studying for vocational courses and another 40 at degree level, he said.

A college official said there had been a resurgence in British farming because concerns over climate change had led to more demand for regionally produced food.

"Farming has seen some very difficult years in this country, which really relates to the global markets, cheap foreign imports and in part the Common Agricultural Policy, which is generally not in favour of our farmers," she said.

Mr Lumsdon-Taylor said: "This is an industry on the up. The perception was that agriculture was failing, but now we are seeing a revival."

For more information about the college go to www.hadlow.ac.uk.



FARMING WORLD: More agriculture students are enrolling at Hadlow College

Big fall in superbug cases

CASES of the superbug Clostridium difficile have fallen across the South East by more than 50 per cent.

NHS South East Coast, the strategic health authority for Kent, Surrey and Sussex, said the region saw 71 cases between April and June this year, compared with 163 for the same period in 2006.

Maidstone and Tunbridge Wells NHS Trust was among those reporting a drop of more than 50 per cent in rates of infection.

The trust was at the centre of last year's superbug scandal after the Healthcare Commission published a damning report into two outbreaks of C diff at its hospitals which led to the deaths of 90 patients.

Figures released by the Health Protection Agency show the national average is a 36 per cent fall in C diff rates in 2008. The average for organisations in the NHS South East Coast area is a 33 per cent reduction since last year.

Medway NHS Foundation Trust has seen a fall of 48 per cent in the number of patients catching the superbug since 2007.

Candy Morris, the SHA's chief executive, said: "Tackling hospital-acquired infections remains our highest priority and these figures reflect that.

"Dedicated teams of doctors, nurses and all those working in our hospitals are making a real difference. But there is still more to be done to ensure we continue to provide the highest possible quality care."

• ***Washing hands can save lives – hospital campaign launched. See page 18***

Reported rise in property values baffles estate agent

THE value of top-end homes in Kent has risen compared with 2007, according to a new report.

Prices for premium properties are up 0.64 per cent on last year, it has been claimed by Primelocation.com, a website aimed at house-hunters in the upper and middle markets.

And its latest figures for September show an increase in the amount of sales in Kent between August and September of 1.2 per cent.

John Oakley, chairman of the east Kent branch of the National Association of Estate Agents, was shocked by the slight increase in some house values.

"I certainly do not believe they are going up, or if they are that they will continue to do so," he said.

Immune

"Some areas, like Millionaires' Row, have seen activity because these people are immune to the situation, or have been until now.

"But everyone is now beginning to suffer as part of the crisis in the global economy."

Prime country property in Kent was worth an average of £566,184 in 2007, compared with £569,816 this year.

Nationally, house prices have fallen by more than 10 per cent in the last year.

However, Primelocation.com said top-end properties in Kent had fallen 0.8 per cent in value for the last two months, compared with 0.64 per cent nationally.

A spokesman for Primelocation.com said: "Up until August, prime country values had appeared immune to the credit crunch that is creating turmoil in the housing market."

The average price of a property listed on the company's website is £400,000, which is 2.5 times the national average of about £161,000.

To see this clip search 'traders' @ yourkenttv.co.uk



A poor summer and the economic downturn has been a real problem for traditional traders on Margate seafront, as Mike Wilson, who runs an amusement arcade, explains

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Iconic couple become patrons of ambitious new theatre

Acting greats back Marlowe campaign

By **JENNA PUDELEK**
jenna.pudelek@kosmedia.co.uk

BRITISH theatre and television legends Prunella Scales and Timothy West have backed plans to create a new performing arts centre in Kent.

The famous couple join other influential patrons including Orlando Bloom, Jools Holland and Joanna Lumley, who are supporting the New Marlowe Theatre campaign.

Scales, who is best known for her part as Basil Fawlty's long-suffering wife, Sybil, in Fawlty Towers, said: "The Marlowe Theatre holds a special place in the heart of the many artists who have performed there over the years.

"Thanks to this project, the South East will have a spectacular new performance space, which is sure to attract the very best among the performing arts."

The fundraising campaign for the Canterbury theatre hopes to raise £6 million in private donations towards the expected cost of £25.5m.

The old Marlowe is due to shut next year. The new theatre will be built on the same site in The Friars. When it opens in 2011 it will provide a three-tier 1,200-seat main auditorium and second 'producing and performing' space.

"The New Marlowe is one of the most exciting projects at this time," Scales added.

"It will bring the pleasures of theatre, music, opera and dance to people of all ages, and we are delighted to support this wonderful project."



PATRONS: Prunella Scales and Timothy West support the New Marlowe Theatre

Scales, 76, and West, 73, who have been married for 45 years, are among the country's most respected actors and have both been awarded CBEs for their services to drama.

West is renowned for his many leading Shakespeare roles and has won acclaim for his television work. This year he starred in Harold Pinter's The Lover and the Collection at the Comedy Theatre, London.

Sir Graeme Odgers, the campaign's chairman, welcomed the new patrons.



COMING SOON: A computer image of how the New Marlowe could look

He said: "It is a great honour that two such leading lights of the British acting profession are backing this campaign.

"Their support for regional theatres such as the New Marlowe Theatre is vitally important and we hope that they might be able to play a role in helping the new theatre develop some of the great performers of tomorrow."

The couple remain passionate supporters of regional theatre and its role in nurturing the skills of new actors, directors and technicians, the campaign said, which is the reason they chose to support the project.

Other patrons of the campaign include Allan Willett, the Lord Lieutenant of Kent; Robert Neame, of Faversham's Shepherd Neame brewery; and Sir Robert Worcester, chancellor of the University of Kent and founder of the Mori polling and research organisation.

For more information about the campaign, go to www.newmarlowetheatre.org.uk.

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HMS Chatham sails home from Iraq

THE Royal Navy frigate HMS Chatham has returned home after seven months' service off Iraq.

Servicemen on board the vessel, which is affiliated with the Kent town, have been protecting offshore oil platforms and policing maritime traffic, and were also involved in seizing illegal drugs.

The oil platforms account for more than 90 per cent of Iraq's income, and their protection is essential for the future of the nation.

HMS Chatham makes regular visits to its Medway town namesake and crew members also raise money for Chatham-based charities while abroad.

The ship returned to its home port of Plymouth on Wednesday.

Bond preview will offer added solace

JAMES Bond will return to his roots when Quantum of Solace is screened in Canterbury a day earlier than its nationwide release.

The film will be shown at the Odeon on Thursday, with all proceeds going towards the NSPCC's Child's Voice appeal.

A black-tie martini reception will be held at the Cuban Bar at 8pm, followed by the screening at 9pm and an after-party at the Chaucer Hotel from 11pm. Tickets range from £20 to £25. Call 01227 453577 to book, or email odeon.canterbury@odeonuk.com. Bond author Ian Fleming lived in east Kent and died at Kent and Canterbury Hospital.

Badger sett blast farmer prosecuted

A FARMER who blew up a badger sett has been ordered to pay £2,262 in fines and court costs.

David Botting, from Canterbury, admitted to city magistrates on Wednesday that he used a 'Rodenator' burrow blaster to cause the damage, although he said he intended to get rid of rabbits. The charge of recklessly interfering with a badger sett was brought by the RSPCA.

Inspector Teresa Potter said: "It is vital farmers carry out an environmental assessment before using these kinds of tools."

Unsolved murder case appeal after 29 years

AN APPEAL has been relaunched to help identify a mother who was found dead in Kent 29 years ago.

Police opened a murder inquiry after the woman, aged between 30 and 35, was discovered in Bedgebury Forest, near Cranbrook, in October 1979. Teri Blythe, head of the identification department at the charity Missing People, said: "In most cases an unidentified person is also a missing person, so it is likely that this woman will have family and friends out there who do not know of her fate. We hope this appeal will provide crucial clues that will lead us to identify this body and put an end to someone's distress."



The woman, who is believed to have had at least one child, was 5ft 1in tall, of thin build with brown eyes and dark-brown, shoulder-length straight hair.

When found with fatal injuries she was wearing black shoes, a floral dress and a black polo-neck jumper. It is believed she may have originated from Eastern Europe. Missing People said its records had been checked for clues to a possible identification, but no conclusive match has been made. An artist's impression of the woman, above, and a picture of her clothes, left, have been released in an attempt to solve the mystery. The charity works with the police, coroners, hospitals and social services to help identify people, whether they are dead or alive. If you have any information, call the free and confidential 24-hour line on 0500 700700 or email identification@missingpeople.org.uk.



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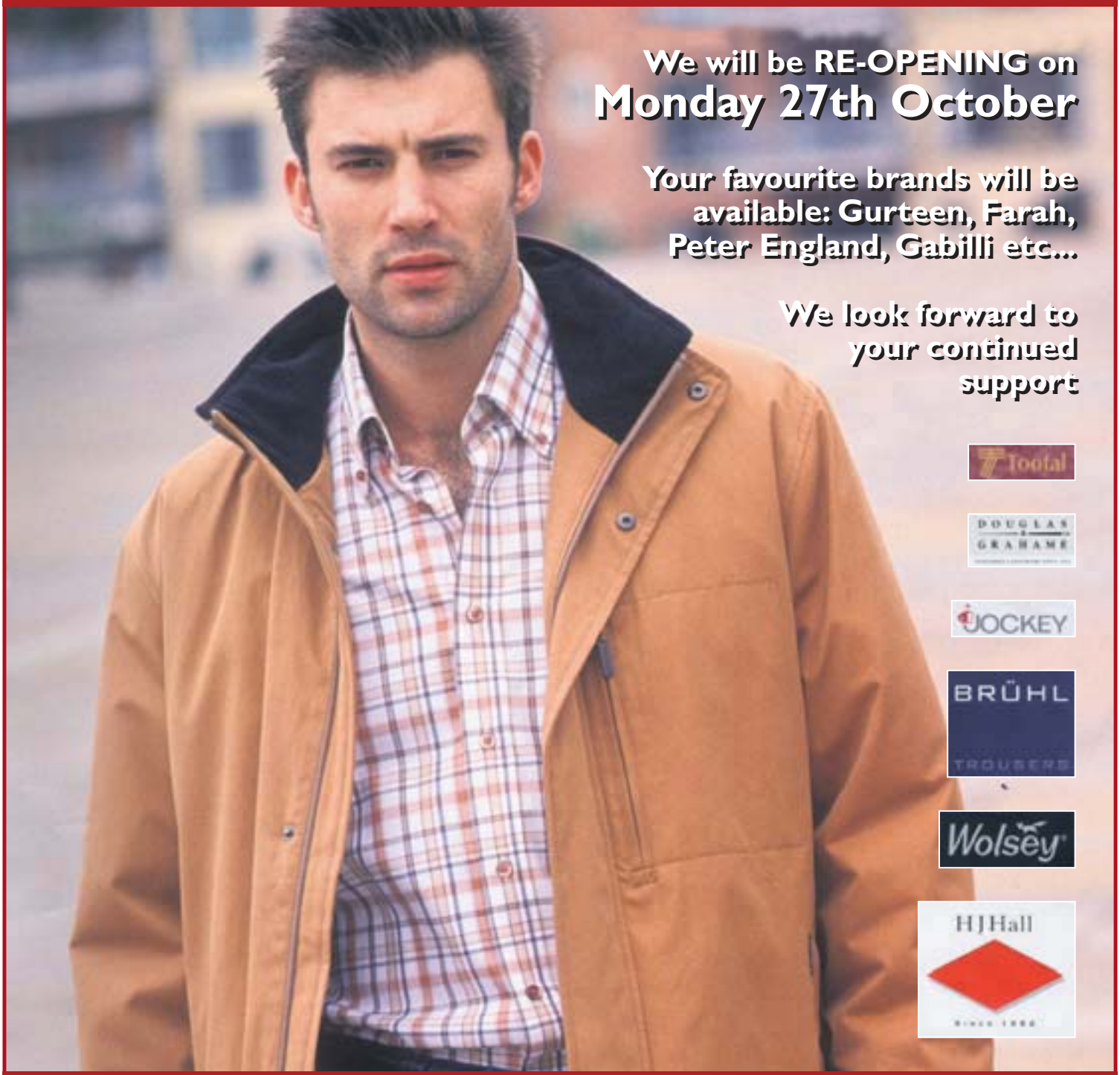


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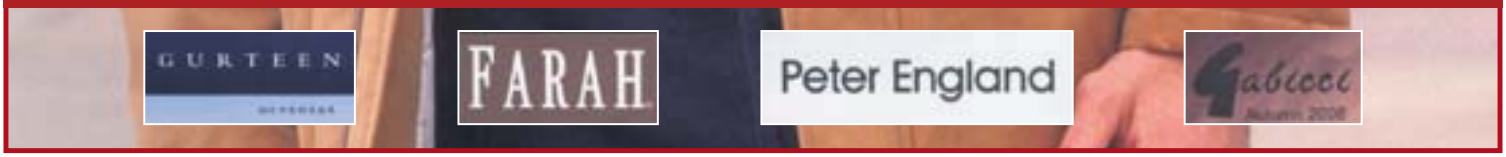
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Parents in grammar fight

PARENTS of successful 11-plus pupils have been warned to expect another battle for Kent's grammar school places with families from outside the county.

Children who took the test received their results on Tuesday, but many of those who passed face an anxious wait before finding out if they will be able to attend their secondary schools of choice.

Because Kent and Medway have more grammar schools than anywhere else in England – 39 – they are an attractive option for parents living nearby who do not want their children to attend non-selective schools.

Independent education advisor Peter Read said he anticipated difficulties for Kent parents again this year.

By **STEVE KNIGHT**
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He said: "I think there will be problems, and especially in west Kent because some of its schools are super-selective and offer places to high-scorers no matter where they live. My guess is that there are unlikely to be any surplus places before the appeal stage in any west Kent schools.

"The grammar schools in Dartford and Maidstone are also starting to go the same way. I'm concerned that children living in rural parts of Maidstone may miss out."

Mr Read said children from Surrey, East Sussex, Bexley and Bromley regularly applied for schools within the Kent County Council boundary, but that he had also received inquiries from parents living as far away as Lewisham. He added: "Some Kent parents are very angry about their children's futures being prejudiced because they can't get grammar school places.

"KCC's admissions department is very good at trying to smooth these issues over, but there is definitely grief every year."

Cllr Mark Dance, who is responsible for school organisation and operation at KCC, said the problem of limited grammar school places would be even greater if parts of the county were not bordered by sea.

He said: "Obviously parents from abroad are not going to want to send their children to grammar schools in Kent, so we have a surplus of available spaces in the east of the county. But then that's not going to help people living in the west.

"There are enough grammar school places for every child who wants one in Kent, but legally we can't stop those from outside the county taking them.

"I would like to build a new grammar school in west Kent but the Government will not let me. That would keep everyone happy."

Martin Frey, of the Stop the Eleven Plus (Step) campaign group, said the fight for places was "one of many reasons" why grammar schools should be abolished.

He said: "Grammar schools select mainly able, hard-working children, which means all the hard nuts to crack are lumped together in the same schools.

"About half our non-selective schools have worse results than those in Hackney, which is a severely deprived area. There's obviously something not right with that."

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Veterans are poppy heroes to youngsters



TOGETHER: Pupils from schools across Kent with veterans at the ceremony, which officially started this year's Poppy Appeal

PUPILS presented proud war heroes with poppies to honour their service and kick-start this year's appeal.

During Thursday's ceremony, the Royal British Legion honoured all those who fought in conflicts around the globe.

Veterans of World War Two, Northern Ireland, the Gulf War and Afghanistan were presented with the symbolic flower to launch Kent's Poppy Appeal 2008.

Soldiers honoured included Sgt Matthew Baker, from Aylesford, who served in the Territorial Army in Iraq.

Captain Wade Hankins, from Maidstone, who is serving with the town's 36 Engineer Regiment, was honoured for his time in Afghanistan.

Captain Gareth Heal, also from Maidstone, was recognised for his service in Kosovo.

Capt Heal has served with many regiments including the Royal Corps of Transport and Royal Army Medical Corps. He is now with C220 Squadron, in Ditton.

He said: "The appeal is not all about the past; it is also about the future for soldiers now on operational tours."

Other veterans honoured included David Lear MBE of Canterbury; Reginald Carter from Whitstable; Michael Stubbings of Borough Green; and Mark Ward from Rainham.

Civil leaders and military commanders from across Kent attended the ceremony at County Hall in Maidstone, which was hosted by county council chairman Peter Lake.

Mr Lake said: "In these tough economic times everyone suffers and the serving and ex-service community are no exception.

"With current operations in Iraq and Afghanistan we are reminded that the human cost of conflict is sadly ongoing and that the Poppy Appeal is as relevant now as it ever has been."



POPPETS: Mark Ward with Jessica and John of High Firs Primary

Community fundraiser Clare Saunders said: "We'd like to thank all those who volunteer and give generously to the appeal.

"For many people buying a poppy is about remembrance. However, the work carried out with the money raised from the Poppy Appeal is very much about the living."

The appeal marks the start of the two-week run up to Remembrance Sunday, on November 11, which will be the 90th anniversary of the Armistice, the moment World War One came to an end in 1918.

Last year, the Poppy Appeal raised £985,260 in Kent, which allowed the organisation to respond to nearly 800 calls for Royal British Legion support.

Children from All Souls Primary, Folkestone, and High Firs Primary, Swanley, presented the honourees with their poppies.

To see this clip search 'sweeper' @ yourkenttv.co.uk



A councillor spent a day as a road-sweeper in a Kent town to see what they have to put up with

Your tasteful opportunity

CONSUMERS are invited to nominate their favourite local food and drink producers in this year's Taste of Kent Awards.

There are 13 categories including Kent Restaurant of the Year, Best Kentish Cider or Perry and Kent Food Producer of the Year.

The top three in each category will be shortlisted and the results announced at a special awards evening.

Voting closes on December 31. To vote, visit www.tasteofkentawards.co.uk or pick up a nomination form at farmers markets across the county.



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Prime Minister heads Government team at Kent Science Park announcement

Brown's £350m lifeline thrown to small firms



FROM THE TOP: Gordon Brown announces the £350 million package, before pressing the flesh with Kent business leaders, left

By **GARETH ARNOLD**
gareth.arnold@kosmedia.co.uk



PRIME Minister Gordon Brown chose Kent Science Park in Sittingbourne to announce a new raft of measures on Tuesday designed to help small and medium-sized businesses (SMEs).

He was joined by Business Secretary Peter Mandelson and Skills Secretary John Denham who provided details of the £350 million package, to include financial relief and staff training courses for smaller firms.

More than 90 employers, predominantly Kent companies, were invited, as well as organisations including Business Link, together with Swale council leader Cllr Andrew Bowles.

Local businesspeople were given the chance to question the Prime Minister and other Government figures, including Minister for the South East Jonathan Shaw, the MP for Chatham and Aylesford.

Swale's executive portfolio holder for regeneration, Cllr John Wright, welcomed the fact that small businesses in Kent had been given the opportunity to question senior members of the Government.

He said: "Measures the Government can take to ensure small businesses continue to thrive are welcome as we work on the regeneration of Swale.

"Swale Borough Council is an important link for businesses to lobby partners and Government. We welcome this ministerial visit and are delighted that Kent Science Park was chosen for this important announcement. Regeneration is Swale council's number one priority."

Part of the package was the launch of a free 'Health Check' for SMEs which is now being offered by advisory organisation Business Link. Also in the package is a Government pledge to pay small firms' bills within 10 days instead of 30 as is normal.

SMEs employ about 400,000 people in Kent and the checks are comprehensive business reviews identifying strengths, areas for improvement and issues for trading companies.

County councillor Roger Truelove, Labour's shadow cabinet member for regeneration, said: "Gordon Brown talked a lot of down-to-earth sense when he came to visit Kent.

"The Government's commitment to pay bills to small businesses within 10 days seems like such a simple thing. But paying bills quickly is a vitally important way to help small businesses keep their cash flow going, especially in today's economic climate, when banks won't necessarily be willing to tide them over.

"Good cash flow means jobs and a stable economy, especially in a county like Kent, where our businesses are mostly small or medium-sized enterprises.

"KCC's Conservative leader Cllr Paul Carter tried to steal the Prime Minister's thunder this morning by setting out what he called the council's 'Vision for Business'. He says Kent should emulate the Victorians: they thought big and worked big.

"But for small enterprises, it is often the little things that make the difference – like not having to wait to be paid by their local council."

Clrr Truelove added: "I looked into KCC's record on paying bills over the last year, 2007/08, and contrary to the image the administration would like to put across, it is not a picture of excellence.

"KCC wasn't even in the top 25 per cent of councils for paying its bills on time within 30 days, let alone 10.

"Will KCC step up to the pledge made by the Government? Will it get its act together to pay small firms within 10 days?

"Local businesses have had enough of Cllr Carter's dreams and visions. It's time for KCC to put its money where his mouth is."

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SPECIAL GUEST: The Prime Minister with Kent Science Park managers

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KCC's Tory chief tells conference bureaucracy is stifling business enterprise

Carter calls for fewer rules and regulations

COUNTY Hall chief Cllr Paul Carter – a successful businessman and developer – thinks today's building rules and regulations would demolish his chances of starting up, as he did nearly 30 years ago, ***writes Tony Patey***.

The morning after he tackled Prime Minister Gordon Brown during his visit to Kent Science Park about over-regulation of the construction industry, Cllr Carter said he would find it tough to start up now. He told 200 business and development delegates at a conference on Wednesday: "I said to Mr Brown yesterday that over-regulation of the construction industry – they may have under-regulated the banking industry – is getting beyond a joke.

"It is adding massive percentages to the cost of laying bricks and I quickly reflected on what we had to do 28 years ago when I started out in London. Then, we had to fill in a building notice with the district surveyor, we had to get planning permission, and the building notice involved filling in a form – not a detailed set of working drawings right down to the nth degree – and we had to have a structural engineer and that was it. Then we got on with it.

"What do we need now? A massive amount of compliance, to a full-plan submission – before we can start work – to the building inspector. And we have to have National House Building Council accreditation, we have to produce a travel plan, we have to have an environmental survey, an ecology survey, a soil analysis, and now a waste management plan. In Westminster we have submitted a planning application for 20 flats and now have to redesign it because we could not waste a couple of inches on the end of a sheet of a plaster board. Absolutely barking-mad nonsense. The regulations are massive documents that cost a fortune. Whoever reads them? If I were having to put up with this 28 years ago, would my business have ever got off the ground? I think it would have defeated me.



CHALLENGE: Cllr Paul Carter

"The Government has to start de-regulating and leave the construction industry and the building inspectors to get on with the job."

He told the conference, which was to launch the Kent Property Market Report, that KCC was signing a big construction deal this week as part of the £600 million Building Schools for the Future project.

"We are about to sign a £400m-£500m contract on the Building Schools for the Future programme with Land Securities, which will bring potentially £1.4 billion-£1.6bn capital investment into the Kent economy. We've been very clear with Land Securities that we want to see much of that expenditure filtering down to support construction companies and professional teams in Kent."

He said he had told Mr Brown that KCC's procurement (buying goods and services) policies "are really opening up our doors to small and medium-sized enterprises and slightly bigger firms, but the Government needs to review its own procurement policies.

"In our academy schools programme, for example, you can only choose three or four architects off a Westminster approved list, and you can only choose three or four contractors off the list, which precludes good businesses in Kent getting involved. We have built stunning schools in Kent with local architects and local contractors."

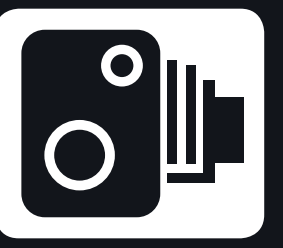
Chief defends secrecy

KCC boss Cllr Paul Carter said a move to try to exempt council commercial companies set up with taxpayers' money from Freedom of Information laws was "protecting the taxpayers".

The bid follows a long-running battle between some Kent companies and KCC over the extent of the county council's commercial activities and what they claim is a lack of transparency.

Mr Carter told KOS Media this week: "When you are in negotiations, with an enormous number of transactions, and spending £400 million at least on capital procurement, as well as procuring a massive amount of the £2.2 billion revenue budget, there are commercial sensitivities.

"We have to have confidentiality on those negotiations until they are final. But I and Nick Chard (cabinet member for finance) believe in open government and being as transparent as is feasible, without giving away commercial confidences, otherwise it will rebound on the taxpayers of the county."

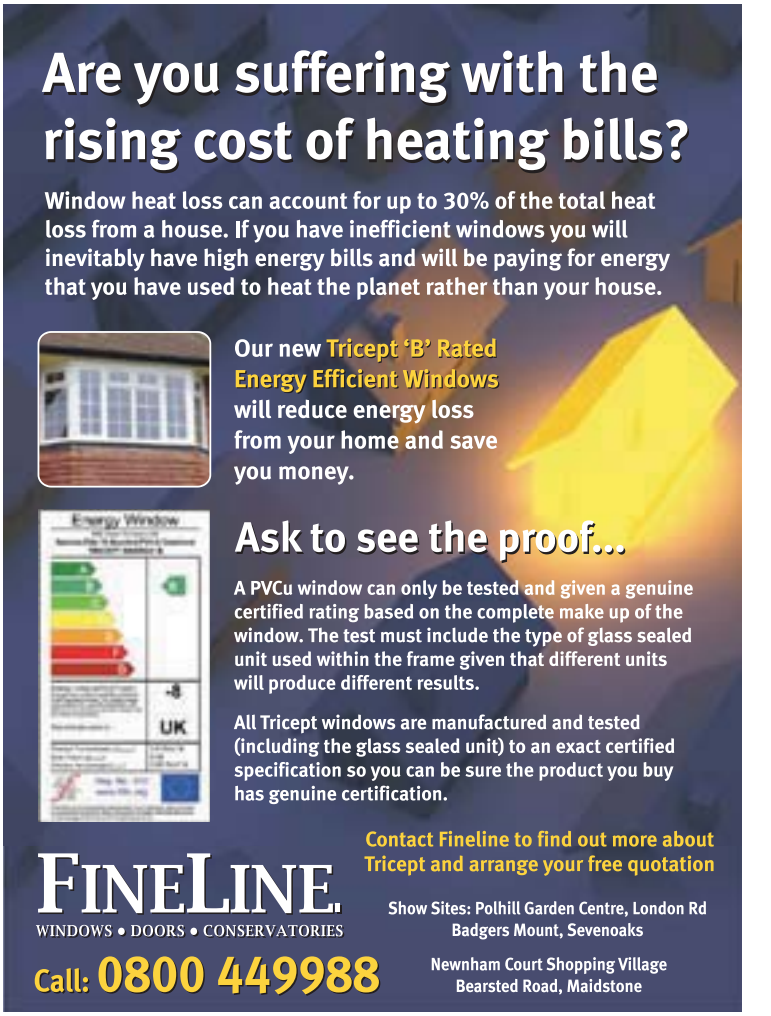


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eBay feedback spat leads to libel threat

By **STEVE KNIGHT**
steve.knight@kosmedia.co.uk

A MECHANIC is being threatened with libel action over negative comments he made about a mobile telephone bought off eBay.

Chris Read, 42, from Herne Bay, was not satisfied with the product he purchased from 26-year-old Suffolk businessman Joel Jones, and used the website's feedback service to warn other users.

But Mr Jones was none too pleased with the comments and is now threatening to take the matter to court.

Mr Read said: "The phone was scratched and chipped and it was the wrong model. As soon as I received it in the post I emailed him and he admitted he had sent the wrong one.

"He said he could give me my money back and as soon as the transaction was closed I left an honest account of what I thought."

The feedback service is designed to reassure customers a seller on the site can be trusted, or to warn of bad experiences that suggest doing business with them could be risky.

Mr Read's comments read: "Item was scratched, chipped and not the model advertised on Mr Jones' eBay account."

Within days of them being posted, Mr Read received an email warning him to retract the statement or face legal action for allegedly damaging Mr Jones's business.

Mr Read said: "I didn't think much of the threat and thought it was a bluff at first.

"I replied saying I stood by my comments and would go to court if necessary."

Soon after the email exchange, Mr Read received a pre-court letter demanding he agree the negative feedback was "unreasonable" or risk losing money in court.

However, Mr Read said he was confident any legal battle would see him come out on top.

He said: "I have no reason to retract my comments and there's no way I'm going to back down.

"To libel somebody you have to lie about them, and I haven't done that.

"I can't really see his point for doing it and it's blown up in his face because this story has gone around the world now and it's just making things worse."

Defending his decision to proceed with court action, Mr Jones said that he deserved positive feedback for offering Mr Read a refund.

He added: "I'm losing money by the day and my business could go under because of it.

"I've been left with no option but to take legal action and I'm sure I'll be successful."



Picture: KNP



DISPUTE: Chris Read with the pre-court letter received after Joel Jones, inset, took exception to his feedback comments on eBay

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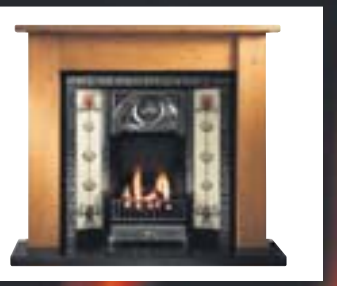
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Council investments to be scrutinised

Cash review after £50m Iceland loss

By **STEVE KNIGHT**
steve.knight@kosmedia.co.uk

A REVIEW of all Kent County Council investments has been made to ensure there is no repeat of its £50 million Icelandic banking nightmare.

The authority's finance chiefs made the announcement at a meeting on Wednesday to reassure the public that lessons were being learned from the crisis.

KCC invested more money in Iceland than any other council in the UK, and there are no guarantees yet that any of it will be recovered. However, it is thought about £18m in the London-based Heritable Bank will eventually be recouped.

Director of finance Lynda McMullan explained to members of the cabinet scrutiny committee how the crisis had affected its policies in the short term.

She said: "We have reviewed where our remaining money is placed and what guarantees there are to support it. As money matures and new money comes through it will be placed in the Debt Management Office, but I don't see that as sustainable.

"The rates of interest we would receive would be between 60 and 70 per cent less than current, and although there would be almost no risk I'm not sure that is the right way to go."

Ms McMullan added that the lower interest rates would represent an annual loss for the council of about £6m – the equivalent of about one per cent on council tax.

A new economic management group has been established at the council, comprising senior members of all parties, to evaluate the decision-making process and risks associated with future investments.

It was revealed at Wednesday's meeting that the body is likely gather for the first time on November 3.



RISK: An economic management group has been set up to oversee investing

However, it will be difficult for them to discuss the way forward until a PricewaterhouseCoopers (PWC) report on KCC's internal control processes and the investment advice the body received is completed.

The firm that provided the advice, Butlers, was not at Wednesday's meeting, although it was suggested they would be happy to answer questions at a later date.

Ms McMullan revealed how the council was first made aware of the problems in Iceland on September 30 – just days before news of the banking system's collapse broke. By then it was too late to recover any of the money KCC had invested.

Last week Cllr Mike Eddy (Lab) – chairman of the cabinet scrutiny committee – called for finance portfolio holder Cllr Nick Chard to resign for allegedly claiming the Government told KCC to invest in Icelandic banks.

When asked to explain himself at the meeting, Cllr Chard denied making such a statement: "I want to make it clear that at no point have I ever implied the Government wanted us to invest in Icelandic banks. What I did say was that, quite reasonably, they asked us to spread deposits over a wide range of banking systems based on ratings guidelines."

Dual carriageway fight driving towards minister

ROADS minister Lord Adonis will be asked to ensure improvements to the A21 in Kent go ahead as planned.

Tunbridge Wells MP Greg Clark made the promise because of concerns the economic climate will delay work to turn parts of the road that are single lane into dual carriageway.

These include the sections between Tonbridge and Pembury, and between Kippings Cross and Lamberhurst.

Mr Clark said: "The economic climate has cast many road schemes into doubt and we cannot allow this to happen to the A21, which is essential to relieve traffic congestion and provide access to the new Pembury Hospital.

"There was unanimous and cross-party support from MPs, council leaders, representatives from the hospital trust and local businesses and regeneration bodies, that we must act now to seek assurances from the new minister on improvements to both stretches of the road. Nothing can be taken for granted until we see the work begin."

The Government confirmed earlier this summer that improvement works to the A21 between Tonbridge and Pembury would start in 2011-12, albeit still a year later than originally planned.

The Kippings Cross to Lamberhurst section is still scheduled for 2012-13.

Mr Clark said: "We need to look the new minister in the eye to get his assurance that no further delay can be countenanced, and his agreement that the economic downturn now makes the improvements even more urgent."

On Thursday, Mr Clark took his argument to the South East England Regional Assembly's regional transport board.

He said: "The board advises the minister on road priorities and it is essential their support for the A21 improvements is maintained.

"The road is vitally important for business growth and regeneration, for access to the new Pembury Hospital, and for the local users of the road who have suffered intolerable delays and traffic congestion for so many years."



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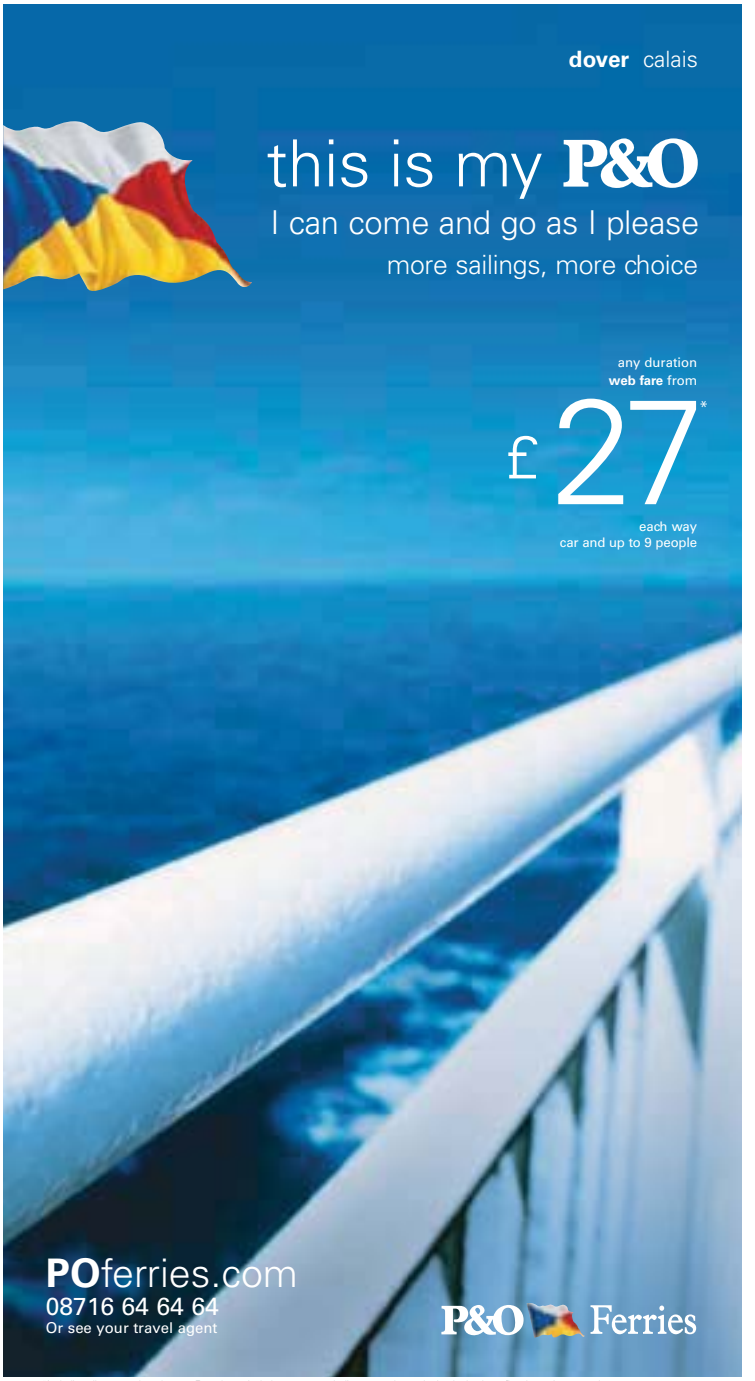
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Music and science in harmony at lecture

WORLD-renowned scientist and television presenter Lord Robert Winston is to give a lecture in Kent, ***writes Jenna Pudelek***.

Famed for his work on the BBC's Human Body programme, he will be exploring the link between science and music to raise money for Canterbury Christ Church University's £8 million purpose-built concert hall. Lord Winston, pictured below, will be joined by John Harle, the most recorded saxophone performer in the world to ask: Are science and music compatible? And if so how do they interact?



Mr Harle said ahead of Tuesday's lecture, entitled The Scientist and the Saxophonist: "Robert and I are delighted to support the campaign to build a new music centre for the people of Kent. The university's music department has an established reputation for excellence in performance and therefore it is fitting to hold a lecture which aims to dissect the history of the saxophone and explore the mysterious world of science and music."

He said the pair would discuss how the saxophone has become such an iconic and popular form of self-expression. He also promised the lecture would end with a saxophone duet between himself and Lord Winston.

Mr Harle told how he met his fellow lecturer two years ago when he taught him to play the saxophone on the BBC's Play It Again series. He said: "During the filming of the lessons, we found that we were kindred spirits, with a great interest in each other's area of work.

"This collaborative performance lecture seemed to be the next step for us and it has been a pleasure to work with the university to provide a unique evening with insights from both science and music that will both fascinate and entertain."

The lecture starts at 7pm at the university's Salomons Campus in Tunbridge Wells. Tickets cost £10 are available by calling 01227 782 995 or emailing stgregs-development@canterbury.ac.uk.

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Red phone box will be coffin for 'saviour'

THE self-appointed saviour of Kent's red telephone boxes has arranged to be buried in one when he dies, ***writes Steve Knight***.

Graham Wanstall has prevented the removal of about 50 iconic K6 Jubilee kiosks since 1986 and has successfully campaigned for a further 12 to be listed by English Heritage. And now, thanks to a German firm that arranges for people to be buried in all manner of strange objects, Mr Wanstall's obsession will continue even after he has hung up for the very last time.

He said: "A local undertaker gave me a pamphlet about the company and I thought it would be appropriate to be buried in a phone box. They'll allow you to be buried in pretty much anything. A friend of mine who's a Doctor Who fan has chosen a replica of the Tardis."

Paperwork

And while Mr Wanstall, from Dover, has filled out all the necessary paperwork for his burial, he still has the small problem of providing the actual telephone box to overcome.

Disused K6 Jubilees can cost as much as £6,000, although Mr Wanstall says he expects a friend who owns one to donate it to him.

Asked if his future pallbearers will need to beef up for the funeral, Mr Wanstall said: "I think not. My coffin will have to be placed in the phone box after my funeral because it would weigh too much for anyone to carry.

"My wife isn't keen on the idea and has said she won't join me in there when she dies. She thinks it's going a bit far, but I suppose when you're dead it's academic anyway."

Mr Wanstall is now working to save kiosks outside Deal hospital and at Folkestone harbour. He said: "These telephone boxes are British icons and need to be preserved."

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OLD STRAIGHT TRACK: Lines preserved by enthusiasts have kept alive memories of the golden age of the railways, which some blame Dr Richard Beeching's 1963 report for bringing to an end

Edwina's new line on Beeching

By **JENNA PUDELEK**
jenna.pudelek@kosmedia.co.uk

THE impact of the infamous 'Beeching axe' on Kent and Sussex is explored by former MP Edwina Currie in a new television programme.

Dr Richard Beeching's 1963 report, The Reshaping of British Railways, proposed the closure of 5,000 route miles across the country and saw the Sheerness-born physicist become Britain's most hated civil servant.

His pruning of the rail network left ghost lines and phantom platforms across the country – on top of which 70,000 people lost their jobs.

The former Maidstone Grammar School pupil's decisions incurred the wrath of many, from those left isolated in small villages, to the poet John Betjeman.

But the network had been in decline for 50 years, too many lines were running at a loss and his cuts made savings of up to £147 million.

More than 40 years later, Ms Currie said while filming Down The Line, opinions remain divided on whether Beeching was a hero or a villain.

"I think there is quite a lot of understanding about what he did," she said. "There are quite mixed views about him. One of the people we met thought he was a hero.

"He was asked to look at railway lines with hardly any passengers. Tunbridge Wells was carrying on with 30 passengers a day. They were simply loss-making lines that could not continue.

"In those days the car was seen as the future. In 40 years, do we want to be judged on the decisions we are making now?"

It would be beneficial for some of the lost lines to be reconnected to the network, she said. Dr Beeching, who lived at East Grinstead, East Sussex, was quite happy to keep the lines into London because he understood the need as a commuter himself, she said.





SHARP END: Former MP Edwina Currie will consider Dr Richard Beeching's legacy on Down The Line

His issue was with the lines used by people going on shopping trips or holidays to the coast.

In the BBC1 programme, being screened at 4.25pm on Sunday, Ms Currie explores the effect the loss of rail services had on landscapes, buildings, villages and towns. She found there were both winners and losers.

The former Tory junior health minister begins her journey in Tunbridge Wells at the Spa Valley Preservation Line, which runs from the old West station opened by the London, Brighton & South East Coast Railway in 1866.

She said the commuter town had benefited from the closure of the station because it had gained the Spa Valley, which runs through the Weald as a working reminder of the golden age of steam. Other benefits could be found across the county border.

"East Grinstead gained because the railway line was turned into a bypass, so the town was spared," she said.

But further down the line in Uckfield the need for the line to be reconnected could be seen, she said.

Campaigners are still fighting for its link with Brighton to be reinstated after 40 years.

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Urgent action demanded on waiting times



CONCERN: Greg Clark MP is worried about the pressure on A&E at west Kent hospitals

By **STEVE KNIGHT**
steve.knight@kosmedia.co.uk

THE reopening of closed beds and the takeover of community and cottage hospitals could help cut patient waiting times in Maidstone and Tunbridge Wells, says MP Greg Clark.

Mr Clark has called for "significant improvements" in patient care after reports on Maidstone and Tunbridge Wells NHS Trust and NHS West Kent by the Healthcare Commission last week.

It found that in terms of patients waiting more than four hours to be seen in accident and emergency in 2007-08, the district's hospitals were in the bottom one per cent in the country.

Mr Clark said: "I have been concerned for some time that we have a problem with A&E departments operating under extreme pressure. At various times during the last year A&E has been so full at both hospitals that ambulances have been queued up waiting outside, unable to discharge patients.

"Similarly, the acute assessment units have regularly been full of patients for whom no bed can be found in the hospitals.

"These shocking figures confirm my feeling that we have a real problem with the throughput of A&E, which is much worse than in other hospitals.

"So far this has not resulted in loss of life, but I am very concerned that in the event of a big increase in admissions due to a severe winter, we will be exposed to a risk that the admissions process could grind to a halt."

Mr Clark attended a meeting of Kent County Council's health overview and scrutiny committee, where he called for "urgent action" to improve the problems facing A&E wards in west Kent.

As well as suggesting closed beds be re-opened and beds in community and cottage hospitals be taken over, Mr Clark said the trust should also look at ways of cutting red tape to speed up patient discharges.

He said: "I believe waiting times for emergency admissions, delayed discharges and the issue of infection control are inextricably linked. If patients are unable to pass through the hospital system smoothly, the threat of infection grows."

A spokesman for the trust said it had been working hard to reduce delayed discharges and waiting times, and that only 2.9 per cent of patients had a delayed discharge in August, 2008, compared with 7.6 per cent in September, 2007. He added that since July, more than 97 per cent of A&E patients had been seen within the four-hour target.

The spokesman said: "There is still some way to go before we have defeated these long-standing problems but we are determined to continue working to get them right."

Steve Phoenix, chief executive of NHS West Kent, said all available beds in its community hospitals had already been reopened, and that patients were also supported in their own homes by community nursing teams working alongside GPs and social services.

He added that teams of community staff were supporting Maidstone and Tunbridge Wells NHS Trust to reduce waiting times.

"Reducing A&E waits remains a key focus for the hospital trust and for us, and we will be looking at further improvements that can be made," he said.

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Five held after tractor raids

EIGHTY officers swooped on eight addresses after a year-long police investigation into the theft of farm vehicles and machinery.

The raids were carried out on Tuesday across mid Kent, the Weald and the west Kent.

Two men were arrested in Maidstone, one in Lenham, one in Charing and one in Hollingbourne.

Det Insp Tom Richards said: "Theft of farming machinery means a considerable loss to the owner, both financially and to the continuity of their business.

"Although rare in Kent, it is essential that people are aware this type of crime goes on and the affect it has on our farming community. We ask everyone to report any suspicious activity to police immediately."

Tractors can cost between £63,000-75,000 and even secondhand machinery can be sold for up to £50,000. Some top-of-the-range tractors cost more than £100,000.

Det Insp Richards said: "Many of these stolen vehicles are transported abroad and sold on. It is estimated the trade in stolen farm vehicles across the country can be worth about £3 million a year."

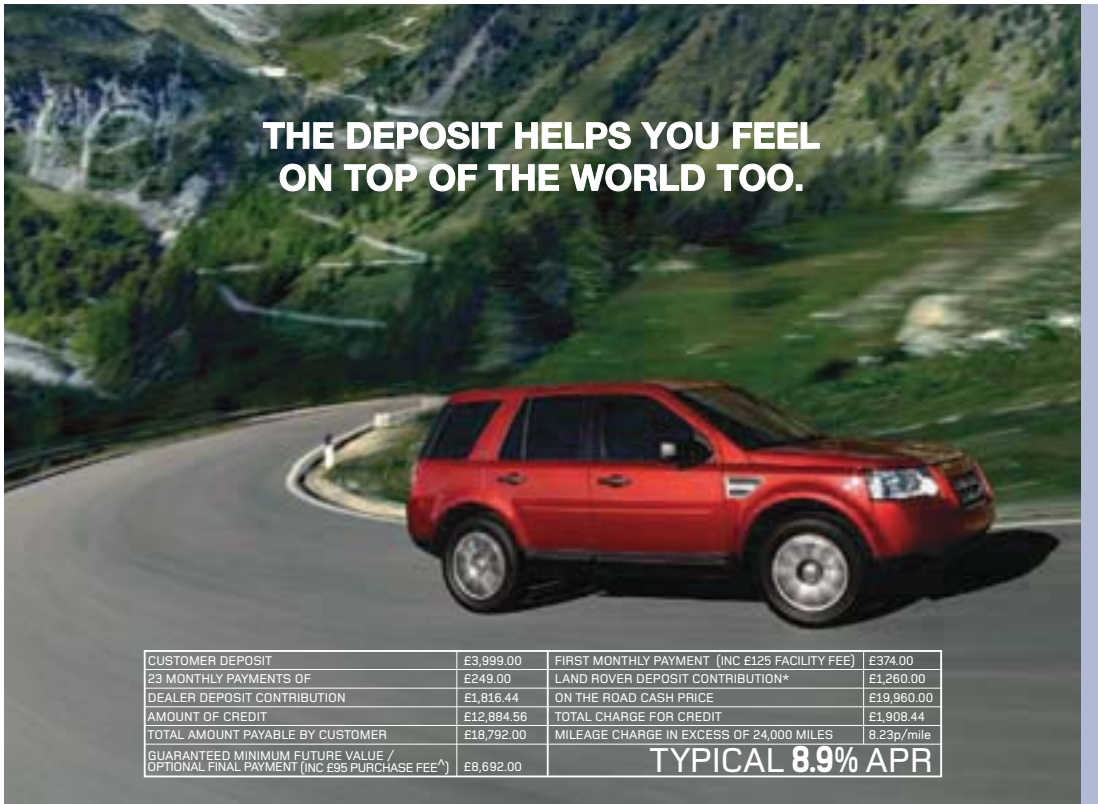
Body in blaze home

A WOMAN died in a devastating house fire in Sittingbourne on Wednesday.

Fire crews from Sittingbourne and Faversham were called to Park Drive at 10.50am to tackle a blaze which had ripped through the home.

Firefighters battled through flames and thick smoke to search for casualties and the 42-year-old's body was discovered in the house.

An investigation has been launched, but police said the fire was not suspicious.



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Vehicle shown is the Freelander 2 TD4 S, features optional metallic paint at £540. *Deposit Contribution is only available when financing a Freelander 2 using Freedom finance, Land Rover Financial Services, AL1 2RW. ^Payable with the Guaranteed Minimum Future Value if you wish to own the vehicle at the end of the agreement. Promotion applies to vehicles first registered in the customer's name between 1 October 2008 and 31 December 2008, at participating Dealers only. Promotion available on new Freelander 2 TD4 S derivative only. Finance subject to status. Guarantees/indemnities may be required. Further charges may be made subject to condition if the vehicle is returned at the end of the agreement. Certain categories of business user may be excluded. Details correct at time of going to press and are subject to change without notice. Land Rover Financial Services, AL1 2RW. Drive responsibly on and off-road.

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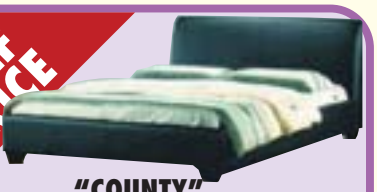
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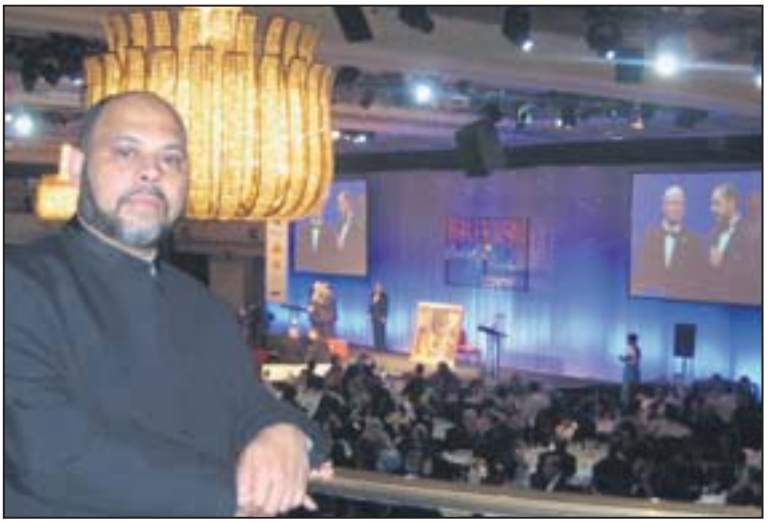
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Curry expert enjoys taste of victory for fourth time



HIGH POINT: Nurul Islam, of Dover's Light of India, at the British Curry Awards

RESTAURANTS in Kent outspiced thousands throughout the country to make it to the finals of this year's British Curry Awards.

By **STEVE KNIGHT**
steve.knight@kosmedia.co.uk

About 26,000 nominations flooded in for more than 3,000 Indian, Bangladeshi, Pakistani, Sri Lankan and Nepalese-owned eateries, with just 100 making the final cut.

Among the Kent restaurants named as being the best in Britain was the Light of India, Dover, which has reached the finals every year since the awards started four years ago.

Manager Nurul Islam attended last week's awards ceremony, held at the Grosvenor House Hotel in London and hosted by celebrity impressionist Jon Culshaw.

Mr Islam said: "We have been in Dover for 24 years and are proud to be the only restaurant in Kent to have won the award four times in succession. The ceremony is like our version of the Oscars and it was a really enjoyable evening and recognition for the hard work of my staff.

"The last few weeks have been very tough for us because the state of the economy means business is down, but we have loyal customers who sometimes travel quite a distance to eat at the Light of India and we thank them for their support.

"In India most people eat curry to survive, but here we have the time to experiment and we are always trying to improve our menu."

Other Kent restaurants that made the final 100 include Green Spice in Dartford, Raj Pavilion in Tunbridge Wells and The Raja of Kent in Tenterden.

The British Curry Awards were founded by Enam Ali, owner of Le Raj restaurant in Epsom and publisher of Spice Business magazine.

He warned restaurateurs at the ceremony that the industry faced "dire consequences" from the imminent introduction of the Government's new points-based immigration system, which will reduce the number of skilled kitchen staff.

Mr Ali said: "Despite all our lobbying, a mass protest in Trafalgar Square and clear evidence that the industry is shrinking rather than growing, the Government is still not listening to us.

"How many more restaurants are going to have to close before the politicians recognise we have a special case and grant us the small concessions we are seeking?

"Without action, the spiral of decline is certain to accelerate, with each closure having a knock-on effect to other businesses and suppliers.

"We must, and will, keep up the pressure to get things changed. There is no alternative."

Visit www.britishcurryaward.co.uk for more

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Kent County Council

A day in the life of Kent Highway Services

Kim Hills is Head of Community Operations at Kent Highway Services and he makes sure that communities know what we're doing and why:

What's the purpose of your role?

It's about communicating with the public on behalf of Kent Highway Services and delivering good customer care. Alongside that, I have responsibility for making sure that the physical work to do with road surfaces is delivered.

How does your working day normally begin?

It starts very early!

What does an average day normally entail?

My time is dominated by communicating with my staff and the general public, whether that's by email, letter or in face-to-face meetings. Communicating is a crucial part of my role, so we can understand what the public want and find the best way to deliver our service.

I have a lot of meetings with the Kent Association of Local Councils and 'blue light' services, as well as with county Members and town or parish councils. There are a lot of people to talk to and keep in the loop about the work that we're doing and planning!

We try to achieve high levels of public satisfaction every day because that means we're doing our job properly, and we're always striving to deliver a professional service delivered by professionally trained staff.



What do you find most difficult about your job?

Knowing you can't do everything. It's hard to tell the public that we can't do something because it's not physically or financially possible. I also find it immensely frustrating if we don't deliver on a commitment we have given.

However, the worst thing is seeing crash records because they're people, not just numbers on a sheet.

Can you give any examples of the challenges you face?

I have to lead on major emergency response situations, when there's severe weather for example – that's always challenging.

What's the most rewarding aspect of your job?

When members of the public say thank you for a job well done. That means a lot.

Change for the better

Everyone's looking for ways to save money at the moment, but at Kent Highway Services we're always on the look out for ways to improve our efficiency – not just to save money, but to deliver a better service to Kent.

We're continually learning about how to change the way we do things for the better and a major example of this is the way we manage the precautionary salting on our winter maintenance routes. By simply using different techniques, we're planning to save over £180,000 a year.





Another example is our programme to replace fully illuminated traffic bollards with reflective ones. These new bollards don't need electrical connections, so we save on energy, and because they are extremely robust they are less prone to vandalism and more resistant to vehicle impacts. This replacement programme has created a saving estimated to be in excess of £70,000 per year.

We're always open to more money saving ideas, so if you want to share an idea with us, please get in touch by calling 08458 247 800.

Dealing with potholes – permanently!

Dealing with potholes is an ongoing task for Kent Highway Services and we want to make sure that we deal with them in the best way that we can. That's why we have been trialing a new permanent patch material.

Rhinopatch is a unique, cost-effective and sustainable method of repairing our roads, so we can get it right first time and try to stop potholes recurring.

This new material is significantly better than previous methods because it reduces the amount of waste produced by the repair, making it more cost effective, and it produces 85% less CO_2 emissions, making it better for the environment too.

The Rhinopatch process recycles all available surface material at the repair site and it's suitable for use on all types of road repair. It's the most advanced 'infra-red' road repair process available and the trials are proving very successful – you could well see the rhino at work in a street near you.



Travel Update

Kent Highway Services

Below are roadworks and events that may cause some disruptions. Please remember that these are planned works and other emergency works may be required.

Canterbury

Start	Finish	Road	Reason
27.10.08	31.10.08	Old Dover Road, Canterbury	Road closure – new gas mains
28.10.08	21.11.08	Grove Ferry Road, Upstreet	Road closure – carriageway works

Maidstone

Start	Finish	Road	Reason
27.10.08	31.10.08	A229 Linton Hill, Linton	Temporary traffic lights – energy supply works

Thanet

Start	Finish	Road	Reason
27.10.08	10.11.08	Chatham Street, Ramsgate	Road closure – carriageway works

Tunbridge Wells

Start	Finish	Road	Reason
28.10.08	31.10.08	St Davids Bridge, Cranbrook	Temporary traffic lights – new gas mains

Sevenoaks

Start	Finish	Road	Reason
30.10.08	30.10.08	Farleys Lane, Westerham	Road closure – carriageway works

For details of other roadworks in Kent please visit www.kent.gov.uk/travel

See www.KentTV.com for up-to-date travel information

For more information, please call 08458 247 800 or visit www.kent.gov.uk/highways

Murder hunt after dad is shot sleeping in bed

POLICE are hunting a killer after a father was shot dead as he slept in his bed.

Danny King, 51, also known as Shep, was killed at his home in Ditton, at about 3am on Friday, October 17.

It was reported that Mr King was shot as he lay in bed with his wife, but police deny this.

It is understood that Mr King's grandchildren were in the house at the time.

One resident of the village told our sister paper Yourmaidstone she had heard a bang in the night but didn't realise it was a gunshot.

She said: "I was speaking to neighbours afterwards and remembered I had heard a bang, but I just thought they were having a party.

"I heard dogs barking and doors slamming when I was trying to read a book at about 11pm and they carried on until three or four in the morning. I looked out of the window at one point and saw people running back and forth."

By **ANNA WHITE**
anna.white@kosmedia.co.uk

An ambulance crew and three response cars were called to the scene at 3.04am.

The house was cordoned off while forensics officers examined the scene.

Neighbourhood officers were in the area on Tuesday, speaking to residents in an attempt to unearth more information and to allay concerns. Police appealed for anyone with information to come forward.

Det Chief Insp Jon Bumpus, who is leading the investigation, said: "We would like to hear from anyone who may have seen anything suspicious on Thursday evening and into the early hours of Friday, in the area surrounding Medina Road and New Road, Ditton.

"Mr King's family are trying to come to terms with the loss of a loving husband and father and echo our appeal for witnesses to come forward.

"You may not think the information is significt, but please contact officers so we can establish why someone would commit such a horrific crime and bring the offender to justice."

A mobile police station has been set up on The Green, off Medina Road, for residents to speak to officers. Anyone with information can contact the incident room on 01622 654863 or email operation.persia@kent.pnn.police.uk, or Crimestoppers on 0800 555111.

Find more news and sport updated daily online www.kentnews.co.uk



VICTIM: Danny King was killed in bed

Confidential sex health clinics for under-25s

NEW free and confidential sexual health clinics for young people have opened across east Kent.

The four clinics run alongside existing contraceptive services and will provide testing for sexually transmitted infections (STIs).

NHS Eastern and Coastal Kent Primary Care Trust staff said anyone under 25 can access chlamydia screening and treatment, HIV tests, screening for other STIs, free condoms, emergency contraception, regular contraception and safe sex advice and information.

The trust said the clinics in Deal, Ashford, Ramsgate and Faversham were led by specialist nurse practitioners.

A spokesman said: "No matter what gender you are, what you believe, your ethnicity or what sexual preferences you have, we believe you have the right to explore your sexuality in a safe, healthy, informed way. We are here to listen, not judge."

The clinics are not for people who are experiencing STI symptoms and those should attend the GUM clinics at Kent and Canterbury Hospital, Ashford's William Harvey, Folkestone Health Centre and the QEQM Hospital in Margate.

For more information about the clinics and other sexual health services, telephone 01303 228808.

Body discovered by blaze crews

A PERSON has died in a house fire near Maidstone.

Kent Fire and Rescue Service was called to the two-storey home in Woodland Close at Penenden Heath at 1.23am on Saturday, October 18, where a blaze had broken out on the ground floor.

Four pumps were sent – two from Maidstone and two from Larkfield – and crews wore breathing apparatus to tackle the blaze, which was extinguished by 2.20am.

A body was discovered at the scene. There were no other casualties. An investigation into the cause of the blaze has been launched.



Campaign's timely reminder that infection control is the responsibility of us all

CLEAN SAFE HEALTHY

KOS media CAMPAIGN 2008

Hand-washing really can be a matter of life and death

By **JENNA PUDELEK**
jenna.pudelek@kosmedia.co.uk

THE head of nursing in west Kent has highlighted the message that simply washing your hands can save lives.

Barrie Collins, director of nursing and infection control and prevention at NHS West Kent, said the primary care trust was launching a national initiative, called Clean Your Hands, across its six community hospitals on Monday. District nurses, health visitors and other healthcare professionals will also be talking to patients about the need for basic hand hygiene, he said.

The launch comes after Infection Control Week, which ran from Monday to Friday, to raise awareness about the work being done to protect patients from superbugs and other infectious diseases.

Mr Collins said: "We have trained the staff and put up notices about the campaign, and we already have hand-gel containers. It is reminding people of the importance of washing their hands and that it is everyone's business. It is the single most important thing we can all do to stop the spread of infection."

'13 per cent of commuters had faecal matter on their hands'

The initiative from the National Patient Safety Agency has been running in acute hospitals across the country and the trust is among the first to introduce it in community services facilities.

KOS Media has been running a campaign to highlight the importance of hand-washing and basic hygiene in the battle against killer bugs such as MRSA and Clostridium difficile.

Infection rates are down, but Mr Collins explained how with infections such as norovirus – or winter vomiting disease – now is an important time to take precautions. It is important not to visit hospitals if you have been sick or had diarrhoea, because it can spread very easily.

"Also we heat our houses in the winter which creates warm environments where bugs can grow, so we have to be vigilant," he said.

Despite hand-hygiene campaigns running across the country, a study conducted by the London School of Hygiene and Tropical Medicine found 13 per cent of commuters at London's Euston station had hands contaminated with faecal bugs.

But that was nothing compared with our soap-dodging friends in the north. At Newcastle Central station, 44 per cent had hands contaminated with bacteria normally found in faeces.

Researchers tested more than 400 people at bus stops and train stations in five UK cities and the results were published last week.

Val Curtis, director of the hygiene school, was "flabbergasted" by the high number of people not washing their hands after using the toilet.

Mr Collins said: "The bacteria will spread onto everything else they touch, so they are contaminating other surfaces. It only takes 15 seconds to wash your hands properly."

For health bosses there cannot be enough reminders for the public, patients, visitors and professionals to wash their hands, he said.

"Anything that raises awareness is a good thing. The more we can do to help people realise that washing your hands is important, the better it will be for everyone," he added.

Mr Collins' top hand-washing tips:

- Always wash your hands before and after preparing food and after going to the toilet.
- Liquid soap is better than bars because they can become contaminated.
- Use water as hot as you can bear. Cold is no good.
- Just running them under the tap is not good enough, it will only spread the bugs around.
- Dry your hands properly – bugs like warm, damp environments.
- Use alcogel in hospitals because it is effective against MRSA, or when you do not have access to soap and water.
- Alcogel is not effective against C diff, so use soap and water too, especially if you or someone you are caring for has been sick or had diarrhoea.

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A new Prospectus and application form can be obtained from the school from 03 November 2008.

Closing date for applications: 31 January 2009

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County's highways service to be 'transformed' by new man

A TOWN hall bigwig from Worcestershire could be on his way to the county to transform the county's highways department.

Kent and Worcestershire county councils are discussing a partnership between the two local authorities that would see John Hobbs, who is director of environmental services at Worcestershire, join KCC as interim director of highways improvement. In return KCC will work with WCC to offer support and advice on waste management issues.

Over the last two years Mr Hobbs has overseen the "transformation" of WCC's highways division and "completely overhaul" its performance.

KCC chief executive Peter Gilroy said: "Paul Carter, leader of KCC, and I have been very impressed by what John has achieved in Worcestershire.

"Geoff Mee, our director of Kent Highway Services, has already started the transformation of Kent Highway Services.

"We have restructured the service and built the new depot at Ashford. Geoff has been asked to carry out a key piece of strategic work on transportation across the whole of Kent.

"Subject to the formal agreement of Worcestershire County Council, John Hobbs will have the opportunity to take the transformation of Kent Highway Services to the next stage and help us transform the experience of customers."

Mr Hobbs said: "I see this as a great opportunity to build on what has been learned at Worcestershire. Highways is a service which matters so much to the public and I am excited at the challenge of the wider canvas of Kent."

The proposal is for Mr Hobbs to start part-time and be full-time by Christmas.

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Women too

By **JENNA PUDELEK**
jenna.pudelek@kosmedia.co.uk

WOMEN were given the right sit on juries and become lawyers when they won suffrage, but even as late as the 1960s the criminal justice system remained dominated by men.

Dr Anne Logan, a lecturer in social history at the University of Kent, has spent a decade researching her first book, Feminism and Criminal Justice – A Historical Perspective, which will be published next Friday.

In the first study of its kind, the author traces the women's movement and how it impacted on criminal justice policy from the end of World War One to the 1970s.

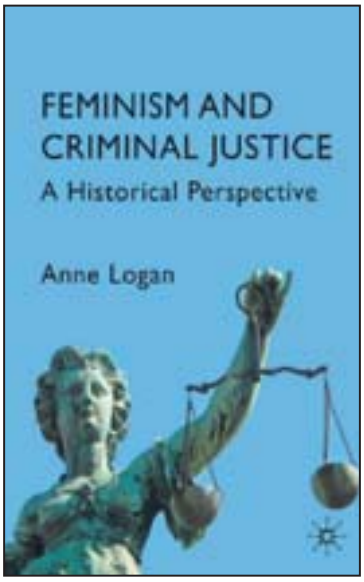
The 1960s are seen as a time of rapid social change, but not necessarily in the world of courts and the legal system where women were often deliberately excluded from juries, she said.

During the Moors Murderers trial in 1966, defence barristers rejected four female jurors – apparently to save them from the gruesome details of Myra Hindley's and Ian Brady's killing spree.

"The usual reason at that time was that they felt women might be too emotional. Also because one of the defendants was a woman, there was a belief that a woman would be too hard on another woman," Dr Logan said.

"There was also quite a lot of talk about things that were not nice to discuss in female company."

And so Hindley, and countless others, were not tried by a group of their peers or a cross-section of society as is now the case.



Dr Logan said that during a trial in 1965 involving an 'obscene publication' the judge ordered an all-male jury because the subject – the homosexual content of an American novel – could not be discussed in front of women.

Traditional

As well as being discriminated against when they were called as jurors legislation stated, until the Criminal Justice Act 1972, that

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jurors must be householders which also excluded many women from serving.

Dr Logan said women's organisations, including the Towns Women's Guild, objected to the fact that women were being excluded from court despite the fact that details of gruesome or 'obscene' cases were reported on the BBC for all to watch.

During her research, the author found that women were well represented in one section of the justice system – magistrates' courts.

She said by the 1940s nearly 25 per cent of magistrates were female, mainly because it was traditional at the time for women to take part in unpaid volunteering work.

"Interestingly, once they had got into the system they transformed it and took a much more involved approach than had been seen previously. A law background was not needed, but they educated themselves setting up a range of organisations and for the first time training as magistrates.

"The women brought about quite a change and some became experts and advisors to government, influencing policy," Dr Logan said.

Former suffragettes were among those who became magistrates.

"Ironically some of the women who became magistrates had been breaking the law a few years before. They took their knowledge from one area to another, such as Lady Rhondda who had previously set fire to a postbox," she said.

Dr Logan said that after World War One there was not so much appetite for the kind of direct action used by some of the more militant suffragettes and women worked to change the system from within.

She added: "Women's organisations campaigned to improve the rights of women in the courts and how they were represented. People thought the women's movement and feminism were dead, but it was actually very lively.

"It was very much what we'd regard as a traditional pressure group strategy mostly lobbying and using Parliament."

• The book is published by Palgrave Macmillan and costs £50 from Amazon.

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SENTENCED: Anne Logan's new book (far left) reveals how women were often deliberately excluded from important trial such as the Moors Murderers Myra Hindley and Ian Brady (pictured left)

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Rabbit hunters did not have consent

THREE men have been cautioned for hunting rabbits without permission of the landowner.

Two men aged 25 and a third aged 54 were seen hunting on land on the Isle of Sheppey on October 15. They were arrested by police.

While hunting rabbits is not illegal, it is an offence under the Hunting Act to do so without permission to use the land.

PC Andy Small said: "Rural partnership officers receive specialist training to deal with issues of particular concern to rural communities, including poaching and hunting.

"These arrests show we are committed to tackling this sort of illegal activity and dealing with incidents quickly and appropriately."

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Calling time on disabled badge cheats

By **STEVE KNIGHT**
steve.knight@kosmedia.co.uk

JUNIOR transport minister Paul Clark aims to clamp down on fraudsters with a £55 million overhaul of the disabled parking system.

Mr Clark's move on Monday was the Gillingham and Rainham MP's first major announcement since he was promoted in Prime Minister Gordon Brown's cabinet reshuffle earlier this month.

As part of the overhaul, traffic wardens may be given the power to confiscate stolen or forged blue badges.

The Government also plans to extend the scheme to seriously disabled Armed Forces personnel and veterans, people with temporary but serious mobility problems, and individuals with severe mental impairment.

Mr Clark said: "The blue badge scheme provides a vital lifeline to 2.3 million disabled people in England.

"The value of the badge in terms of independence cannot be overstated, as 75 per cent of holders say they would go out less often without one. I want to ensure the maximum number of people who have a genuine severe disability can benefit from the scheme. That is why the strategy contains a commitment to extend it to people with certain temporary mobility problems.

"Assessments will be made fairer and more consistent, with local authorities receiving up to £15m per year to conduct improved independent medical tests."



As well as the possibility of traffic wardens seizing fake badges, a £10m national data-sharing system will also be established by councils to ensure stolen or forged badges from outside the area can be easily identified for the first time.

The Government is also looking at new technology to make badges harder to forge, including barcodes that can be read through windscreens.

Annette Watson, a Kent committee member of the disabled drivers' charity Mobilise, said she was pleased with Mr Clark's announcement.



CLAMPDOWN: Paul Clark wants to overhaul the disabled parking badge system

She added: "I think the idea of seizing forged badges is brilliant, but the wardens would need to be sure because a lot of disabilities cannot be seen at first glance. They might assume someone is fit and healthy when they are not.

"People with multiple sclerosis, for instance, might be housebound one minute but fine the next, so I think the wardens would need a lot of training before they become judge and jury."

According to Mr Clark, one in every 200 badges in circulation is reported as stolen each year, with some being sold on the black market for up to £1,500 a time.

Blue badge holders can park on single or double yellow lines for up to three hours, and indefinitely at parking meter bays.

Mrs Watson said: "You can't put your parking badge in the glove compartment because it has to be on display at all times.

"The whole point of the badge is so disabled drivers can park closer to where they want to go, not so we don't have to pay for parking tickets. If we had to pay the same as everyone else, I think the problem of forgery and theft would not be as great as it is."

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More weird science as MoD releases fascinating UFO files

Jet's close encounter in skies above Kent

By **STEVE KNIGHT**
steve.knight@kosmedia.co.uk

INTRIGUING details about a UFO that almost collided with a passenger jet above Kent have been released by the Ministry of Defence.

According to a report on the 1991 incident, the captain of the Alitalia airliner shouted to his co-pilot in surprise as a brown missile-shaped object shot past overhead.

The unexplained close encounter, which took place in the skies above Lydd, features in UFO-related military documents made available by the National Archives.

After ruling out the object being a missile, weather balloon or space rocket, the MoD closed the inquiry.

Far from putting the near-miss down to alien invaders, Kent-based UFO researcher Chris Rolfe feels there is a far more simple explanation.

He said: "I remember investigating this at the time and what I found strange was that for the first time the MoD said it was a UFO.

"My suspicion was it may have been some sort of target drone being tested, but I have never been able to prove it. It doesn't bear thinking about what might have happened had it hit the plane.



ALIEN NATION: The vast majority of UFO sightings have mundane explanations

"The general consensus is that 95 per cent of UFO sightings can be explained. For instance, earlier this month there were sightings of strange orange lights in Folkestone that turned out to be Chinese lanterns released by schoolchildren.

"I think there are lots of things going on that only a few people in important positions know about. When these things are noticed by ordinary people, it's easy to pass them off as being UFOs."

An MoD spokesman denied the Government had any knowledge of what had shot past the passenger jet.

Nineteen files covering sightings between 1986 and 1992 are now available to view online. Among them are details from a former US Air Force fighter pilot who says he was ordered to shoot down a giant UFO while on an intercept mission from RAF Manston, in 1957.

Ground controllers had ordered Lieutenant Milton Torres to fire all 24 of the missiles on his Sabre aircraft at the mystery object as it hovered over Norwich.

But seconds before he was ready to shoot the intruder vanished off the radar screen at an estimated 10,000 miles per hour.

Other Kent-related files released include the sighting of an oval-type object with a "bright red light in the centre" that made nearby telephone wires go dead, above a mobile caravan park at Biddenden, near Ashford, in November, 1988.

In April, 1990, a Broadstairs woman reported how the engine of her car cut out when a "bright green disc, like a coin" hovered into view.

UFO expert Dr David Clarke said the MoD documents would shed new light on close encounters with airborne phenomena.

He said: "Because the subject is bedevilled by charlatans and lunatics, it is career suicide to have your name associated with UFOs, which is a real pity.

"The National Archives are doing a fantastic job here. Everyone brings their own interpretation. Now you can look at the primary material – the stuff coming into the MoD every day – and make your own mind up.

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Fraud officers in airport arrests

OFFICERS from Kent Police's Serious Economic Crime Unit have arrested seven people at Gatwick Airport as part of a credit card fraud investigation.

The officers swooped on Monday after receiving reports of fraud involving holidays booked to Jamaica paid for using "compromised credit cards".

Those arrested included two women, aged 19 and 21, and two men, aged 30 and 43, from Aylesford. A 39-year-old man from East Peckham and a 45-year-old woman from Snodland were also arrested.

All were bailed until January, pending further investigation. A further 38 passengers were not allowed to board their scheduled flight. A 26-year-old woman was also arrested in Aylesford in connection with the investigation and has also been bailed until January.

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Bucks Fizz star's crowning glory returns after 'devastating' blow

Pop singer Cheryl tells of hair loss nightmare

By **JENNA PUDELEK**
jenna.pudelek@kosmedia.co.uk



CHERYL BAKER: "There is still a stigma about hair loss that is difficult to contend with and it can be really traumatic for a woman"

RENOWNED for her bubbly personality and bouncy blonde locks, singer and television personality Cheryl Baker has told of her "devastating" hair loss.

From her home near Sevenoaks, the former pop star spoke out about a problem which affects one-in-three women at some stage of their lives.

"It was devastating," she told KOS Media. "People think being in the public eye must make it worse, but even just going to school to drop off the kids I had to cover up my hair. You don't want anyone to see you."

The 54-year-old said that while her mother-in-law – who died after catching Clostridium difficile during an outbreak at Maidstone Hospital in 2006 – was having chemotherapy she used to wear a wig to cover her hair loss.

"Hair is a woman's crowning glory. Women do not lose their hair," she said.

"Well, I know now that they do. But there is still a stigma attached to it that is difficult to contend with. It can be really traumatic for a woman."

The first time the Bucks Fizz star noticed her hair was beginning to fall out was after giving birth to her twin daughters, Kyla and Natalie, now 13.

But because some hair loss is not uncommon after pregnancy and because it was not coming out in clumps, she decided not to worry about it.

"I was totally aware and I ignored it because I had two babies to look after. If I had to do photos or television, I used a lot of backcombing and hairpieces," she said.

But it was a different story when she started to go through the menopause.

"I thought, now I don't have any babies to worry about I've got to address this. Menopause is a time in your life when everything starts going wrong, your skin starts to go wrinkly and I just couldn't take one more thing, so I had to do something," she said.

After trying every over-the-counter hair remedy available at the pharmacy, Ms Baker listened to the advice of a friend who suggested she "feed it from the inside".

She tried Viviscal, a nutritional supplement which the makers say contains marine extracts, organic silica and vitamin C, and promises to stimulate growth of hair that has slowed down or temporarily stopped growing.

It took about four months and on her 50th birthday, while in Las Vegas with old school friends, she finally noticed the difference.

"I got out of the shower and my sister said, 'Wow Rita (Cheryl's real name), your hair looks so good'. That was the first time in years anyone had said that. I've always struggled with my hair because it is thin and doesn't do what I want it to. My hair was better than it ever had been."

Ms Baker now swears by the product and has continued to take the supplements, which cost about £50, and has recommended it to friends.

But Dr Clare Kendall, a GP with a special interest in dermatology who works in west Kent, urged caution.

"There seem to have been a few small trials [on Viviscal] but it is certainly not something I would generally recommend," she said.

Although Dr Kendall admitted treatment for androgenic alopecia, or hair loss, in both men and women is "not satisfactory" and there are limited options for people with the condition.

If you are experiencing loss of hair book an appointment with your GP. For more information about Viviscal go to www.viviscal.co.uk.

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Make do and mend with a stitch in time

By **JENNA PUDELEK**
jenna.pudelek@kosmedia.co.uk



THRIFTY: Gwen Jordan in a coat cut down from one belonging to her aunt, in the early 1930s



CUB SCOUTS: Steve Keeler and his brother Andrew in a cart made from scrap wood, pictured in 1966

THE world economic crisis started by the credit crunch has been called the biggest financial storm since the Great Depression.

An exhibition at a Kent museum this winter looks at how earlier generations weathered adverse conditions in the money markets and created a more sustainable way of living.

Manda Gifford, an outreach worker for the coastal museums, began work on the Make Do And Mend project at Whitstable museum two years ago.

She said: "I was particularly struck with some of the great things kids are doing in schools. They were learning about recycling and had their own school gardens.

"My specialism is oral history and memory work. I was struck by the fact there were still people who know all about the things the children were being taught, so I though we should bring the generations together."

Although Ms Gifford was not raised in the austere years of World War Two, her parents had lived through that era and passed on a 'waste nothing' mentality.

She urged people to come forward with ideas and share memories about growing your own food, hedgerow scavenging, cooking from scratch, and making toys and clothes.

"People of a certain age have these skills, but a generation is missing. Although today's young children are becoming aware of recycling and reusing," she said.

"And it is not just older people. I received a top tip from a boy of eight the other day, which was that he saves cardboard to make space rockets," Ms Gifford said.

Telling Whitstable's Story, a community memories group, has been working on the exhibition, which starts in December, and already has nostalgic and innovative ideas about how to make the best use of resources when they are scarce or expensive.

Gwen Jordan, who lives in Herne Bay, was a young girl in the early 1930s and her family was hit particularly hard by the global slump after the Wall Street crash of 1929. Her father died and her mother was left to raise eight children.

"When bed sheets became worn, the sides were turned to the middle and the edges hemmed," the 85-year-old said.

"Cot sheets were made from the good parts of worn sheets and the same with blankets. I remember being in our back garden and helping my mum make pillows.

"Feathers from an old mattress had been placed in a galvanised bath and we stuffed these into pillow cases."

Mrs Jordan's grandmother taught her how to patch, darn and sew.

She said: "A lot of skills have been lost, but I suppose you can't blame people because things are much easier to get hold of now.

Rationing

"Children cannot do the things we used to do. The street was our playground. We used to run out when we saw an aeroplane going over."

Clothes rationing was introduced in 1941, which created a 'make-do-and-mend' ethos. Examples included unpicking wool from jumpers to darn socks, and making toys out of knitting wool.

As a teenager during the war, Mrs Jordan was sent away to work in a teleprinter factory, but she returned to Kent and was reunited with her childhood sweetheart, who was in the Airborne Division, and the couple have been married for 62 years.

The Dig for Victory campaign began at the outbreak of war because the Government knew food would soon become scarce.

Gardens, lawns and even sports pitches were turned into allotments and nearly everybody on the Home Front became vegetable gardeners. Steve Keeler, from Whitstable, was born in the 1950s and grew up with parents for whom rationing was fresh in their minds.

"I think they must have passed it on because I don't like to waste things," he said.

"For example, I use branches to hold up my plants rather than buying canes."

He said people who had grown up in times of prosperity would think: 'Why make it when you can buy it?' but thought now was a perfect time to revive a thriftier mindset.

"My dad used to make us go-karts out of old prams and bits of wood that were lying around the shed," Mr Keeler said.

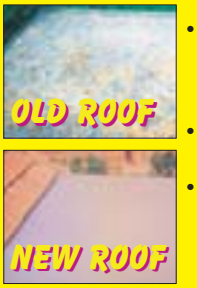
"Later my brother and I were able to make improvements to them. One time this involved putting side panels on. Then we went further and covered the go-kart so it resembled a tank."

The exhibition runs from December 13 to February 21.

• ***If you have stories, photographs and ideas to share about how you make do and mend, call Ms Gifford on 01227 276 998.***

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Dr Who 'geek' visits site used in show



TV HISTORY: Nick Griffiths (above) stands in a cave used to film one of the 1970s Dr Who episodes which starred actor Jon Pertwee (below) who played the third Doctor

Author goes on the trail of the Doctor

By **CHRIS MURPHY**
editorial@kosmedia.co.uk

TRACES of gold paint used to cover the walls of Chislehurst Caves for a 1970s episode of cult sci-fi series Dr Who are still there today, but you have to know where to look.

One man who does is Dr Who buff and self-confessed geek, Nick Griffiths.

He visited two confirmed locations in the county used in the Dr Who show which gripped children in the 1960s and 70s with its scary monsters and crazy storylines.

Mr Griffiths, 43, from Hampshire said: "I was astonished to see the paint still there in the caves."

The caves appeared in The Mutants from 1972. The producers wanted it to look like a Thaesium mine on planet Solos, so they coated the walls in gold paint.

Mutants

Mr Griffiths said: "That's what they did in the 70s – if they wanted something to look like it is in space, they covered it in gold paint.

"Jon Pertwee was the Doctor in the Mutants series, and I was absolutely thrilled to have stood in the exact spot where he did filming those episodes so long ago.

"I know I was in just the right spot because I could still see the traces of the gold paint used for the walls – it was conclusive evidence."

He said he actually asked the tour guide about the filming, to the sniggers of the rest of the tour party.

He spent weeks researching all the sites in the UK used in the programme.

The only other major location used in any of the Dr Who shows was at Dungeness, and even apparently included parts of the power station itself for a gun fight.

"I was amazed how desolate Dungeness was – no wonder Derek Jarman chose to live there to get away from it all."

The shingle beach appeared in The Claws of Axos from 1971. It was used as the Nuton Power Complex and their spaceship landed



on the beach. Once again, Jon Pertwee was the Timelord.

The monsters this time were the Axons, which were either golden and gorgeous in their human form, or a terrifying tangle of flesh looking like tomato covered spaghetti in their real state.

Mr Griffiths said: "There is that gold again. It's a common theme in a lot of old science fiction. I tried to find the exact spot where the Axon spaceship landed, but all the shingle looks pretty much the same, which made it difficult.

"The power station itself was apparently overrun by the Axons and there was a gun fight with soldiers who all appeared to be very bad shots."

Who Goes There, is Mr Griffiths' second book on Dr Who, the first being Dalek: I Loved You.

The author said: "I am a geek when it comes to these shows. I loved them as a kid and still watch them regularly today."

The book is out this weekend.

News and sport updated daily online
www.kentnews.co.uk

WIN! tickets to see new Bond movie Quantum of Solace and relax 007 style at G Casino Thanet



HAVE you ever fancied sipping vodka Martinis in the VIP lounge of a casino?

To celebrate the release of the new James Bond movie, Quantum of Solace, G Casino Thanet is giving away 10 pairs of tickets for a 007-style party.

The lucky winners will start their night in style, having pre-movie champagne in the casino before being treated to an evening screening of the movie at Vue Cinema, Westwood Cross, on the release date of October 31.

Then, after the high-octane film, the winners will go back to G Casino's VIG (Very Important Guest) area for canapés and vodka Martinis before playing on the complimentary 007 roulette table.

G Casino Thanet is the place to go for a great night out and offers a fantastic leisure experience with great food, a late-night bar and live entertainment all under one roof – it really is one amazing venue, one great night out.

To enter, simply answer the question below and send your entry on a postcard along with your email address (if applicable), name, address, and daytime telephone number to 007 Competition, KOS Media, Apple Barn, Smeeth, Ashford, Kent TN25 6SR. The closing date is October 28, 2008.

No purchase necessary.

For our full terms and conditions visit www.kentnews.co.uk or for a posted copy of the T&Cs call 01303 817073.

If you do not wish to receive any literature please write 'no literature' on your entry.

Question: Who plays 007 in Quantum of Solace?

A. Sean Connery
B. Daniel Craig
C. Roger Moore

TERMS AND CONDITIONS: Entrants must be over 18 years of age. They must become members of the casino in order to receive their prize. Winners and their nominated guests must bring photo ID with them on the evening. There are 10 pairs of tickets available to win in this competition. G Casino Thanet is located at Westwood Cross, Margate Road, Broadstairs, Kent CT10 2BF.

Man's ear bitten during club fight

A 20-YEAR-OLD clubber has had his earlobe bitten off during a nightclub assault.

The incident happened in the early hours of Friday morning last week after a night out.

Police say two men became involved in a fight inside Liquid and Envy Nightclub at the Lockmeadow Complex in Maidstone.

As a result one of the men had his part of his ear bitten off.

Maidstone police are appealing for witnesses who may have information on incident to contact PC Martin Barrow on 01622 690055 or call Crimestoppers on 0800 555 111.

Woman cut free from van wreck

A WOMAN had to be cut free from a van after it overturned on the A20 on Tuesday.

Police were called just before 7am to the crash in Farningham near the Pedham Place roundabout.

Firefighters freed the woman from a white Diahatsu Hijet van before she was taken to Darent Valley Hospital with minor injuries.

The air ambulance service was also called to the scene, but was not used. No other vehicles were involved.

The A20 was closed while the incident was dealt with by emergency services and reopened around 8.20am.

A BUILDING at Margate police station will be renamed after an officer who died while on duty.

PC Jon Odell was struck by a car as he was carrying out routine road checks in December, 2000.

A car ploughed into him and he was dragged along the road. PC Odell died from his injuries, leaving a partner and adopted son.

• Wayne Rule was convicted of PC Odell's manslaughter in June, 2001, after entering a guilty plea. He was jailed for 15 years but was released in May, 2006.

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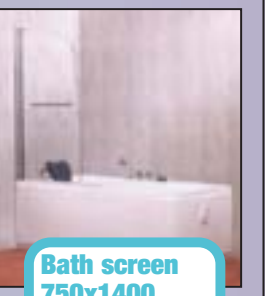




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images of Kent

THIS picture of Folkestone harbour was taken in April by Malcolm Lowing of Biggin Hill, who said: "To my eye this view equals any that I have taken in overseas holiday resorts."

If you would like to see your photo of the county printed here, send it to Kent on Sunday, Images of Kent, Apple Barn, Smeeth, Ashford, Kent TN25 6SR, or email editorial@kosmedia.co.uk.

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Carr driven to distraction

Nappy-wearing heckler tries to steal show from star

By **TOM BETTS**
tom.betts@kosmedia.co.uk

A HOTLY anticipated stand-up show by one of Britain's leading comics descended into chaos as some rowdy members of the audience did their best to spoil it.

TV funnyman Jimmy Carr brought his latest tour to a packed Margate Winter Gardens on Friday night last week.

However, the bizarre behaviour of one individual caused such disruption that some punters, who had shelled out more than £20 for tickets, felt the show was spoilt.

Wise-cracking Carr, 36, invited the audience to participate in the proceedings with comments and heckles, but about 20 minutes into the show a man stood up and made for the toilets.

After a trademark quip from Carr, the man yelled, "You're boring me!".

He returned from the toilets 10 minutes later minus all his clothes and wearing a nappy fashioned from toilet roll – to the amazement of the comic and crowd.

The bewildered comic asked "Has that actually just happened?", before attempting to press ahead as the man sat down in his strange outfit.

Deadpan Carr offered an olive branch to the man, asking him what he did for a living, but he replied: "I work for The Samaritans and listen to w****** all day."

After the interval, the Nappy Man, now back in his own clothes again, headed for the toilets telling Carr "don't start" as he walked by.



STORMY RECEPTION: Jimmy Carr

Carr fired back: "I'm not starting, I just want you to come back from the toilets with your clothes on."

The second interruption escalated into a free-for-all, with more audience members calling out random remarks at Carr.

They included: "Are you gay?; "Why do you look like a Thunderbird?", "Your hair looks like Terry Wogan's" and "I'm from Margate and I'm off my t*ts."

Tempers frayed as the majority of the crowd, tired of the interruptions, turned on those who were being raucous.

Comments like, "Shut up you idiots", "Go home" and worse soon filled the air.

The 8 out of 10 Cats host appealed for calm, but the Nappy Man, a tall stocky male with short brown hair, interrupted again.

After a warning from an irritated Carr he was escorted out by venue staff – to applause and whoops of delight.

Audience member Lorraine Pattola, 25, said: "To be fair to Jimmy Carr, he did manage to keep on top of things, but the whole thing ruined the show for me. The flow was badly interrupted and many of the jokes were spoilt.

"The behaviour of the Nappy Man was embarrassing. I thought a fight was about to break out as people were getting frustrated."

Duty manager Paul Palmer said: "I always talk to our acts – particularly comedians – about how they want things handled.

"Jimmy told me he would deal with hecklers and ask them to leave if things got out of hand.

"We had staff on hand who are all properly registered with qualification needed to evict unruly members of an audience – the SIA certificate which is required of any doorman.

"Our licensed security staff removed the person in question.

"It was a tough night for Jimmy – it's fair to say that. But the situation was not out of control."

Mr Palmer said other audience members were apologetic over the incident.

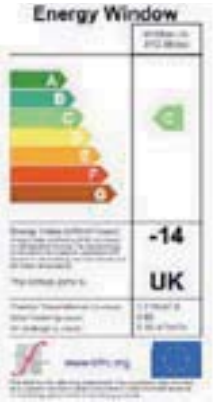
He added: "Jimmy did a signing after the show and people said sorry for what happened but he brushed it off."





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PIPER
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Paedophile jailed over assault and child porn image

Brave victim's courage helps prosecution

By NICK AMES
editorial@kosmedia.co.uk

SEX offender Jeffrey Mantle, 77, has been sentenced to a total of six years in prison for offences of indecent assault and taking indecent images of a child.

Mantle, from Essex Road in Westgate-on-Sea, appeared before Maidstone Crown Court for sentencing, after previously pleading guilty to six offences of indecent assault on a child.

He also admitted one offence of taking indecent images of children at level 5 – the most serious depicting sadism or bestiality with children.

He received six years for each count of assault and two years for the image offence to run concurrently. Mantle will also have to sign the sex offenders' register when he is released.

Officers arrested Mantle in June after identifying him from video footage recovered during an investigation that led to the sentencing of another man for 12 years for sex offences.

Michael Tully, 58, previously of Warren Close. Folkestone, was sentenced in April after pleading guilty to 30 sex offences which included six counts of indecency towards a child, 11 counts of indecent assault of a girl under the age of 16, nine rape offences, two counts of taking indecent images of a child and two offences of unnatural sexual behaviour.

Det Con Kay Sankey from Kent Police's Public Protection Unit said: "These offences took place over 10 years ago and I have no doubt that Mantle continued with his life believing he had got away with his terrible crime.

"He conspired with Tully to commit these horrific assaults on a young vulnerable girl.

"The victim has shown great courage and resilience in assisting police with the investigation, which in turn has led to the successful prosecution and sentencing of these two men.

"The sentencing of these serious offenders shows Kent Police's determination to bring dangerous offenders to justice.

"Kent Police will continue to seek out those individuals who abuse children in this way and bring them before the courts."

Commenting during sentencing His Honour Judge Andrew Patience said that this was one of the worst cases he had dealt with.

He said Mantle was an enthusiastic participant and was indescribably wicked, taking full advantage with enthusiasm of someone who had been corrupted and no doubt utterly terrified. He also said the victim would no doubt be damaged for life.

Sentencing Tully in April this year the judge said: "How anyone that calls themselves a human being can treat a vulnerable human being in that way I don't know. She [the victim] lived in fear that these videos remain in circulation."

He added that he doubted that he will ever forget what it had been his duty to see while reviewing the evidence.

News updated daily online
www.kentnews.co.uk



WICKED: Jeffrey Mantle, aged 77, pleaded guilty to six offences of indecent assault and taking an indecent image of a young child

Duo arrested over lead theft

TWO men were arrested on suspicion of stealing lead from a church roof.

Officers made the arrests just before 10pm on Sunday after a call from the member of the public to St Mary's Church in West Malling.

The suspects are a 22-year-old man from Sittingbourne and a 17 year old from East Malling.

Neighbourhood officer, Sgt Justin Watts said: "Churches, schools and office buildings are vulnerable to lead theft because they are occupied for only part of the day.

"Anyone who sees suspicious behaviour near such buildings to contact police so that we can make a timely response and, as in this case, make arrests."







KENT ON SUNDAY

COMMENT

Talk way forward

WHEN people hear the phrase "war on terror" they tend to think of gunfire and explosions rather than discussions and deal making.

But as a former officer in the Grenadier Guards, Gravesham MP Adam Holloway knows the latter two options can be just as powerful as the first.

He believes working with the Taliban rather than against them is key to winning the conflict in Afghanistan and that the same tactic could work in other hostile countries too.

While Mr Holloway has visited the war-torn nation several times over the years, he says his primary concern is the same as it has always been – for the people of his constituency.

He explains that his interest in Afghanistan stems from his interest in the war of terror, which in turn stems from the fact he does not want to see any of his constituents killed in a terrorist attack.

He has gained a better perspective on the conflict than most people in this country will ever have.

And with the war still going after seven years, perhaps it is time the Government took stock and listened to Mr Holloway's plea to rethink its tactics.

Doctor Who's who

CHISLEHURST Caves are a source of great interest for many people, although some for different reasons than others.

Nick Griffiths, for instance, was fascinated to discover that gold paint used in a 1972 episode of Doctor Who is still evident on the walls of one of the caves today.

Mr Griffiths is a self-confessed Time Lord geek, and who are we to argue with him?

OPINION: Forging greater unity

HAPPY United Nations Day – well from Friday. This weekend still counts though.

Now before you rush downstairs and draft a resolution to invade the fridge and start breakfast, it's worth reflecting a little on what UN Day actually means here in Kent.

If immigration is a bit of a bugbear for you, or you work in the Police or Customs in this county with the longest coastline, then UN policy on Northern Africa or places like Somalia and Sudan is important to you.

If you run a farm then UN policy – with the EU – on crop cycles, grants, pesticides, etc, is an important factor.

Even a veteran political warhorse like Alex King at KCC is now citing UN ethical investments to divest Nick Chard's tobacco and BAE shares. Perhaps in preparation for a new cod war with Iceland for the return of Kent's public funds.

If your local bank has crashed in the casino capitalism escapades recently (a year's worth of Government money to prop up the banks!) and been bailed out by "global financial architecture" like the IMF or World Bank, then UN policy makes a difference on how much money needs printing or spreadsheets shredded.

Perhaps the greatest opportunity for Kent is a missed one – with education so important for our economy and the future where are the curriculum lessons on Global Citizenship and the role of the UN?

It's time we were united across the whole world, not just Europe, says TIM GARBUTT

It's worth reflecting too that the UN was formed in the aftermath of the greatest global conflict ever. One which laid waste to almost all of central Europe: more than 90 per cent of Germany lay in ruins after World War Two.

The horrors of the death camps with over six million Jews, Russians and Gypsies murdered and burned, and 25 million soldiers and civilians shot and bombed from here in Kent's skies and fields, and across the steppes of Russia, deserts of Libya and paddy-fields of Burma.

'Never again' was the resolution. A desire for world peace. An aim largely fulfilled. Admittedly by trial and error but now at the dawn of the 21st century we're witnessing the possible fulfilment of the UN Era.

The horrors of Vietnam, Iraq and Cambodia are largely unthinkable now without direct UN intervention, mandates and reconstruction.

With ongoing conflict in Afghanistan, Sudan and Iraq and failed nations such as Somalia and Haiti, the prospects for a global peace are brighter than ever. With peace and prosperity across all of Europe, most of Latin America and Asia, and the prospect of Africa and Middle East. And almost certainly, with more robust intervention on issues such as crimes against humanity for genocide, democracy and dictatorship for areas like Burma, Zimbabwe and Belarus.

General Dannatt spoke recently of not turning spears into ploughshares yet, but certainly into pruning shears. While the UN Millennium Goals first phase over the next 10 years provide a blueprint for development.

'Shouldn't we now be focused on the regimes in Africa and Asia rather than the suburbs in Belgium or France?'



But back to Kent. We're famous for our twin towns: Ramsgate has Chimay, Canterbury has Rheims and Maidstone has Beuavais. All in France, nothing wrong with that. But the movement was forged from the ashes of World War Two to encourage partnerships for peace.

Shouldn't we now be focused on the regimes in Africa and Asia rather than the suburbs of Belgium or France? Say, Rwanda for Ramsgate? Colombia for Canterbury?

Check out www.sister-cities.org if you're interested in finding a partner town.

Shouldn't every town in Kent also adopt the poorest and most wear-ravaged nations of the African Union to create a 21st century vision for twin towns?

With Kent facing the brunt of the last global conflict, that's a hope to aspire to in the next 50 years. Happy UN Day, Kent.

• Tim Garbutt is the founder and managing director of Sincerity Agency the green and ethical marketing agency based in Canterbury: www.sincerityagency.com.

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Bad deals at Iceland

I thought your article last week on your front page relating to the ill-fated Turner project raised further concerns about the local authority.

First County Hall says the £50 million deposited in Iceland wasn't their fault because they were advised to do it. Well I'm sorry, even I as a member of the public, have been reading for a good week or so before it collapsed, about the dangers with the banks in Iceland.

In fact I read in The Times only two years ago, an article stating the dangers of the Icelandic banking system. Even our local Thanet District Council who, in my opinion, don't get it right most of the time, managed to get our money out in time.

Going back to the Turner thing, so much money has been spent already and they haven't even got a brick in the ground.

The company being investigated by the OFT may well end up being exonerated, but thank God your newspaper is making us aware of these issues.

A Crawley
Ramsgate

We need to save towns

News that Kent Reliance is to quit Chatham should spur Medway Council into action to make sure they stay.

So it was worrying to hear the Conservative deputy leader of the council attacking building society boss Mike Lazenby for his decision to leave town rather than trying to persuade him to stay.

Kent Reliance say they are leaving because of the traffic problems and the latest lack of co-ordination by the council was probably the final straw.

Roadworks in Medway Street have been bad enough so it would have made sense to make sure work planned in New Road and Maidstone Road was delayed until Medway Street was back to normal.

But no, New Road, Maidstone Road and Medway Street all have hold ups at the same time thanks to a lack of co-ordination.

No doubt Medway Council's ruling Conservatives will say it is not their responsibility as they have done every time our roads have been disrupted. The reality is the council could ensure roadworks are better planned but the local authority can't be bothered to try to keep one of Kent's most respected businesses in the centre of Chatham.

As for the Tory claims that no-one else is complaining, that may be because so may businesses have already closed down or left town because of the fiasco over the changes to Chatham's road layout and the failure to deliver the much-needed regeneration.

Cllr Bill Esterson
Labour councillor for River Ward
Medway Council

Innocent until proven guilty

I was very disappointed Kent on Sunday chose to turn into a negative story what we believe to be a really positive story for Kent.

Kent County Council held a very robust procurement process to identify a contractor to build Turner Contemporary in Margate.

R Durtnell and Sons Limited won the tender fair and square and we believe it is a good news story that such a high-profile building as Turner Contemporary – which will attract national and international attention – should be granted to a Kent firm.

The misleading headline in last week's Kent on Sunday talks of "Turner firm faces probe" – by the OFT. In fact there are 112 companies on the Office of Fair Trading list including many of the UK's largest building contractors.

The OFT has publicly stated that "no assumption should be made by procuring entities at this stage that there has been an infringement of competition law". Until such time as any of these 112 companies is found guilty of any wrongdoing, we will continue to use our stringent procurement procedures for procurement and all bidding companies will be judged against these.

In our view it is the Office of Fair Trading that is at fault for allowing this investigation into 112 construction companies to run for so long – keeping a cloud over so many of the UK's building companies at an already difficult time for them.

There are many reports of the damage the OFT's delay in this investigation is doing to building firms the length of the UK.

It does seem unfortunate not to celebrate the success of a Kent company and the potential advantage that could accrue to the Kent economy as a result.

Paul Carter
Leader Kent County Council

Car drivers are bad too

JL McFarlane (Letters, October 12) is as blinkered in his criticism of the Kent Police as he is when he blames all bad road behaviour on motorcyclists.

In my experience the police in Kent do a very difficult job with good humour and professionalism. As for saying motorcyclists are the worst traffic offenders, he is deluding himself when he generalises.

As a motorcyclist since 1967 I wouldn't still be here if I overtook on bends or over double white lines, the bulk of motorcyclists know that statistically they are 20 times more likely to be injured in any crash they have, and so ride accordingly.

For his information Mr McFarlane would do well to buy and read a copy of the Highway Code and he will see that the other two manoeuvres he identifies; riding up the outside of queueing cars – filtering (see Police roadcraft manual) and passing over chevrons bordered by broken lines (Highway Code rule 130) are within the law.

That said, I'll agree with Mr McFarlane that there are some nutters on two wheels, but I would argue more on four. Here is my hitlist:

- Peroxide blonde trophy wives in black 4x4s wearing sunglasses on dull days so they can't see where they're going.
- Builders in Transits driving while smoking and talking on a mobile.
- People who speed up when the lights turn red
- Reps who attempt to read their invoices on the M25.
- Parents who block the traffic outside schools by stopping on the zig-zag lines because their kids can't walk 50 yards.
- And that fat man in a Toyota who stopped in a yellow box junction in the middle of Maidstone this morning and made 20 drivers late for work.

David Finch
Maidstone

I'd prefer an airport

JC Wren does not want an airport because of

Letters continued on p34

YOUR LETTERS

KOS Media welcomes your comments and letters for publication. Please send correspondence to: Letters to the Editor, KOS Media, Apple Barn, Smeeth, Ashford, Kent TN25 6SR. Alternatively fax them to: 01303 817002, or email them to editorial@kosmedia.co.uk. Please include your name and address, although these will be withheld in exceptional circumstances. Please also include a daytime telephone number for verification (this will not be published). We reserve the right to edit letters.

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BIRTHS

APPS
Eden Isabella Rose born on the 15th October 2008, weighing 8lb 6oz. Daughter to Kylie and Paul of Folkestone. Mummy and Daddys special little smurf.

CHIVERS
Logan Thomas born on 10th October 2008 weighing 5lb 12oz son to Russell and Jennifer brother to Joshua and Lucas.

COE
Mattie David, weighing 5lb 7oz, was born to proud parents John and Chloe on 3rd October 2008. A baby brother for Abigail and Renee.

CONNOLLY
Maria and Dave celebrate the birth of their daughter Katie-May Connolly born on 18th September 2008, weighing 7lb 10oz.

CROUCH
To David and Michaela of Canterbury a beautiful daughter, Isabel Clementine, born on 24th September 2008 at 8.08 am weighing 7lb 6oz.

DE YERMO
Jose and Karen are pleased to announce the birth of their son, Fernando Jose on 7th October 2008. A brother for Gabriel and Sofia.

DEAN
Scott and Sally of Tunbridge Wells are delighted to announce the birth of their twin sons Oliver and Chester on 9th October 2008 weighing 6lb 6oz and 5lb 14oz. Baby brothers to Louis.

DEMIRAJ
Alfred and Tracey Demiraj of Maidstone celebrate the birth of their daughter Isabella Hyri Demiraj on the 10th October 2008.

GOODWIN
Tilda Ava Goodwin born on 20th September 2008, weighing 8lb 6oz. Daughter to Claire Tickell and Martin Goodwin of Headcorn.

HOWE
Rebecca Hobson and Darryn Howe of Ramsgate celebrate the birth of their daughter Laila Louise Howe born on 11th October 2008.

INGRAM
Blake Anthony Ingram born on 9th October 2008, weighing 7lb 10oz. Son to Rebecca and Mark in Larkfield.

JARVIS
Daniel and Loreta Jarvis of Maidstone are delighted to announce the birth of their son Andreas Jonas Jarvis on 19th September 2008. A bouncing baby brother to Isabelle Lara Jarvis.

JOOMUN
Zahirah and Shakeel Joomun of Maidstone celebrate the birth of their son Shahbaz Muhammad Mohayudeen Joomun born on 6th October 2008.

LATHAM-BROWN
Jewleous, born on11th October 2008 at 7:45pm weighing 7lb. Son to Sharon and Arron. our most precious treasure.

LITTLE
Harry Jonathan Thomas born on 7th October 2008, weighing 8lb 15oz. Son to Terry and Cheryl Little in Ramsgate.

LULHAM
Sean and Kelly celebrate the birth of their son Oscar Edward on 12th September 2008 weighing 7lb 10oz. A baby brother for Regan and Gracie.

MALONE
Oliver James born to proud parents Tom and Emma of Paddock Wood on 3rd October 2008 at Pembury Hospital weighing 9lb 9oz.

MITCHELL
Hazel and Kevin Mitchell of Eccles celebrate the birth of their son Elliott on 2nd October 2008.

OVERTON
Nicola and Scott Overton of Ditton celebrate the birth of their daughter Millie Isabelle Overton born on 27th September 2008.

PANTONY-MELLOR
Jane and Simon would like to celebrate the birth of their daughter Emily Jane Rose Pantony-Mellor born on 30th September 2008. Sister to Chris, Ben, Vicky, Ellie and Jack.

ROB
Caroline and Afzul celebrate the birth of their daughter Jasmine Mai Rob born on 25th September 2008.

SARGENT
Ethan Neil Sargent born on 16th October 2008, weighing 7lb 7oz. Son to Vanessa and James Sargent in Maidstone.

SARTAIN
Oliver Sartain born on 6th October 2008 weighing 7lb 2oz. Son to Kirsty and Adam Sartain in Rochester.

STODDART
Emily born on the 23rd September 2008 weighing 6lb 10oz. Daughter to Adrian and Caroline Stoddart in Hawkinge Kent.

TAYLOR
Gemma Young and Matt Taylor of Ramsgate celebrate the birth of their daughter River Margaret Taylor on 27th September 2008.

WALLER
Tom and Hannah are proud to announce the birth of their son Christopher Paul on 28th September 2008.

WHITE
Thomas Jack born on 14th September 2008 weighing 7lb 9oz to proud parents Chris and Tammy, a baby brother for Abigail.

WILLIAMS
Dave, Hayley, Alfie and all the family are delighted to welcome the safe arrival of Lexie Maria on 18th October 2008. Lexie was born at 10.14pm weighing 61b 11oz.

WYPER
Kate and Duncan Wyper of Maidstone celebrate the birth of their son Elliot Gerrard on 5th October 2008.

DEATHS

ATKINSON
Maudie passed away on 20th October 2008 aged 90 years. Loving Mum and Nan. So dearly loved so dearly missed. Funeral to be held 30th October St Botolphs Church Northfleet at 2pm. All friends welcome. Donations to The Eleanor Foundation please.

COOPER
Jean passed away peacefully on 14th October 2008.Funeral Service at St Marys Church St Clares Road Walmer Deal at 1.30pm on 5th November 2008. Beyond the gate you will find happiness and rest,and there is comfort in the thought that you will remain close to us.

HARVEY
Richard William Harvey of Dover,passed away peacefully after a long illness on 17th October 2008,aged 57. Beyond the gate you will find happiness and rest, and there is comfort in the thought that you will remain close to us.

HIGGINS
Ethel Mum of Sheila and John passed away peacefully at home on 10th October 2008 reunited with Dad Jack Much love from the family.

HODGES
Barbara Hodges passed away after a short illness on 14th October 2008 aged 85. Dearly loved wife of Maurice, mother of Shirley and John, Rosemary and Ian, grandmother of Andrew, Katie, Robert and Emily. Funeral service at Vinter Park Crematorium on Wednesday 29th October at 2:45pm, family flowers only donations to Demelza House Childrens Hospice.

MUNN
Roy Munn died peacefully on 21st October 2008 in Maidstone Hospital. For information please contact Sears Funeral Services Thornhill Place Maidstone.

QUINN
Thomas Quinn died peacefully on the 20th October 2008. Will be sadly missed by all of his family and everyone who knew him. God Bless.

WANMER
Pauline a much loved wife and mother sadly passed away on 16th October 2008. She will be greatly missed by all her family and friends. Funeral enquiries to Lewis Solomon Darnley Street Gravesend.

Letters continued from p33

the effect it will have on the residents of Thanet.

It will not have the same effect as the China Gateway, that Thanet Council approved. This will bring gridlock to Thanet so if the airport does go ahead, people will not be able to catch their holiday flights due to the roads being blocked.

Manston was an airport long before this disastrous proposal, and it did not cause problems then and I would much rather see an airport than China Gateway.

I would like to know what guarantees the council have regarding the Gateway. Do they have assurances that the distribution centre will be used by the shops?

They are just greedy.

So I say, yes to the airport.

Audrey Marjerson
By email

It's just a pipe dream

Mr Wren writes complaining of the noise if Manston airport is expanded yet he must have know there was an airport there when he moved into his home.

An expanded airport would bring unimagined prosperity to Thanet but, alas, I feel it is a pipe dream and is what the owners would like to happen rather than having any ideas how to attract the airlines.

Gerry Abrahams
By email

Not to be corrupted

Here is something money can't buy, or Thanet council can't make a mess of.

An October afternoon, in the sun, with one of the best views in Thanet, having a beer, when, no further than five metres away a hawk comes and eats their lunch of a vole. Amazing!

The credit crunch wasn't bothering the hawk. Certainly made me forget about it too.

Adrian Ottley
Birchington

Unsubstantial emotion

I was very impressed with Ian Davidson's honest and impartial letter a couple of weeks ago – not only did he admit to being a carnivore, but he based his comments on observation, with an absence of false emotion and sentiment.

Judging by the tone of their letters, I can only assume that Mary McNulty and T Brooks are either vegetarian or vegan (for brevity, I refer to such people as 'Vs').

As to the former's letter, I will be charitable and assume she knows little about nature or what the countryside is for.

T Brooks' letter is merely a clone of the original by R Collins. It is full of unsubstantiated statements and figures wrapped up in the usual emotive language, which obscures the simple fact that all living creatures will eventually die of something or other. Think 'food chains'.

To take but one of their figures – '8,000 tonnes of toxic lead shot'. Not only is the use of lead shot banned over wetlands, but its substitutes – steel or bismuth alloys – are increasingly used in the field.

Since the load in a normal 12-bore cartridge is around 30 grams, this is equivalent to over 266 million cartridges per year in the UK. Really? If placed end-to-end, they would stretch for 10,500 miles! And what percentage of those are used in clay shooting?

Humpty Dumpty said something like, "When I use a word, it means exactly what I want it to mean." Cruelty, according to my dictionary, is defined as 'causing pain or suffering, especially in an indifferent manner'. The Vs seem to have their own definition. This brings us on to the subject of 'domestic' cats that, despite Mary McNulty's assertion, are very much part of the debate.

Are they the only 'domestic pet' that is routinely allowed to roam at will? Think of the furore if dogs were allowed the same freedom.

And if a cat 'plays' with a small innocent animal or bird before killing it, isn't this cruelty, sanctioned by its owner?

If 'domestic cats are snared, poisoned, or caught in traps', what on earth were they doing there in the first place?

Dave Stewart
Deal

The New Weald Order

With Paul Carter again playing second fiddle to Boris Johnson's (formerly of Henley-near-Heathrow) new idea of LondonKent airport, surely it's time to take a fresh look at Kent's cargo airport policies in the run-up to the May, 2009, county elections.

With absurd under-usage at Luton, Gatwick, Stansted and Heathrow itself, even less cargo flights at Manston, CEO resignations at Lydd nor any sign of the missing noise monitors removed by Infratil, and the fabled China-Manston Gateway warehouses, it looks like the cupboard could be bare for Carter-nomics and KCC's economic policies.

Other than "would you like one London airport or three in Kent, Mr Johnson"?

With deprived and derelict areas around Kent such as Thanet Council only just beginning to emerge from decades as the most inefficient and ineffective council in Western Europe, then surely Mr Carter needs to create a more robust 'New Weald Order' from County Hall.

Isn't it time for Messrs Carter and Gilroy to lead on a mix of council structural reform, county electoral reform, and broadening the traditional Maidstone-centric policies?

If Kent's money has 'gone North' then it's to Maidstone rather than Sunderland.

The recent 'Little Maidstoner' policies are hardly typical, or party-centric, or necessary, given KCC's otherwise excellent standing and potential.

Surely Cllr Carter should simply remind Boris and Thanet Council that London, Europe's largest and wealthiest city, should be investing in, rather than ruining its neighbour: a mix of public sector organisations and hi-tech industry sectors such as pharma, IT and eco-tech are more suited to Kent's maritime, agricultural and tourism heritage.

I for one, hope Cllr Carter has a second if not third term in County Hall from 2009 but that the pace is accelerated in redefining and improving 21st century Kent with the once-in-a-generation London Olympics opportunity, and its potential legacy from east London to east Kent.

Tim Garbutt
Sincerity Agency Limited
Canterbury

Update the experiment

Anyone who has picked up a magazine or walked through a shop recently knows that October is Breast Cancer Awareness Month.

It's hard to miss the displays of pink products that benefit breast cancer charities.

But before you buy, ask yourself if your donation will really help women in relevant ways, or will you simply be funding the same useless animal experiments that have been going on for decades?

The basic model of cancer research has not changed much since the 1970s: Grow cancer cells in a laboratory, inject them into mice, attack the resulting tumours with the experimental drug du jour and see what happens.

But there is a world of difference between humans and animals in their metabolism, biochemistry, physiology and genetic make-up, so the results seen in mice cannot be reliably applied to people.

Meanwhile, as we spend millions of pounds to cure cancer in mice, we are missing opportunities that could help real women in the real world – such as making breast cancer treatment more accessible and educating people about the role diet plays in cancer prevention.

Sadly, new technologies that could truly benefit patients – like the three-dimensional model of human breast cancer recently developed by British scientists, made by growing cells from normal and cancerous breast tissue – remain the exception.

This October, we don't need more pink ribbons or mice with breast cancer.

We need a commitment to funding programmes that will result in true progress, including better patient services, education and research that does not rely on outdated animal models.

Toni Vernelli
Animal Aid
Tonbridge

Big really is beautiful

Never mock the obese.

Reading my copy of the Kent on Sunday (October 12) with the headline saying 'paying the price of obesity crisis', I do have a weight problem myself, and there are lots of people of my size plus and they always criticise large people by using that nasty three lettered jibe beginning with the letter F.

Just because one is that way does not mean to say they are a bad person. I'm sure some of those young girls who are influenced by the so-called size zero get seriously ill with anorexia which will foot the NHS bill of a large price. I've seen anorexia and it is a dreadful illness.

So all that about one fry up too many, then we get all this nonsense of being idle and lazy, well that's not always the case. There are those like me who had a serious childhood illness and various medications that caused the weight to pound on.

I see good in all the obese, they are nice and cuddly and nicer than cuddling a skeleton (nothing personal).

Also, I was in a car crash in early 90s, I had bad whiplash, if it was not for the fat (three lettered jibe) on me, I may not be here today. So as people may mock and poke fun, all I can say is fat saves lives, if they don't like the look of it then there's always the size zero mannequin in the shop window dressed in the skinny designer clothes.

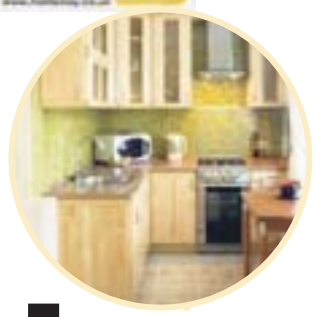
So I suggest that view if they do not like the lovely full figures. It's a good thing that many retailers like mail-order catalogues cater for larger sizes in lovely fashionable clothing and of course for the plus sizes. Now the obese can make the world a bigger beautiful place.

J Missons
Dartford



HomeBuy
My Choice HomeBuy
moat
Communities and Local Government









How to get on the

What is available?

• Open Market HomeBuy offers two options of products: My Choice HomeBuy and Ownhome.

• New Build Shared Equity is available as a My Choice HomeBuy product too.

• New Build HomeBuy offers homes on a part-rent/part-buy basis.

• Resales allow buyers to buy an existing part-rent/part-buy property from the owner and take on their share in the property.

• New Build Discounted Rent provides brand new homes for affordable rent, predominantly for public sector key workers.

• Rent to HomeBuy provides brand new homes available to rent at a subsidised rate, with the opportunity to purchase a share in the property after two to three years.

• Social HomeBuy offers the opportunity to housing association residents and local authority residents to purchase shares in their home.

• First-Time Buyers' Initiative offers first-time buyers the opportunity to buy their own new-build home with an affordable mortgage and the Government will help them out with a grant for the rest.

What is the role of the HomeBuy agents?

There are HomeBuy agents covering all areas of the country. Their role is to offer a one-stop shop for home buyers wishing to find out about low-cost home ownership products by offering a professional and experienced information service. As the Government-appointed HomeBuy agent for Kent, Moat is able to explain and talk through any questions or concerns regarding eligibility, application procedures and information about all of the HomeBuy products that are available.

Open Market HomeBuy

The Open Market HomeBuy programme is funded by the Government and co-ordinated by the Housing Corporation, the national affordable homes agency.

Open Market HomeBuy is a low-cost home ownership programme that aims to help people to purchase their first home. It is a flexible equity loan scheme provided through Government-appointed HomeBuy agents throughout the UK and designed to help households earning between £20,000-60,000 a year – subject to certain criteria – to buy their own homes on the open market.

With the pressures of affordability rising, the difficulties that first-time buyers face in buying a home are well documented.

However, there is help at hand.

There are real opportunities available for first-time buyers to get on to the property ladder and here, Kent on Sunday explores the extensive benefits of the products available in order to help local people purchase affordable homes.

We explain who is eligible and look at how these opportunities could work for you…

An equity loan is an additional loan designed to improve people's purchasing power by supplementing a conventional mortgage. This means the amount borrowed via the equity loan will represent a percentage of value of the property. Over time, if the value of the property increases, so will the amount that you will need to pay back.

For example, if you had a 40 per cent equity loan on a house worth £200,000, you would have borrowed £80,000. If when you sold the property, it was worth £300,000, you would still owe the equity loan provider 40 per cent of the value, which means you would pay back £120,000.

Voluntary repayments

You could voluntarily repay the equity loan, in part or in full, at any time during occupation.

Mandatory repayments

You would have to repay the equity loan in full in the following circumstances:

• when the property is sold

• when the conventional mortgage is fully paid off

• the expiry of a default notice (a default notice is a formal letter sent to you by a lender or creditor if you are in arrears with your account. Creditors and lenders are legally obliged to advise you formally in writing that you have missed payments)

• if you become insolvent, or

• when you no longer live in the property (in joint applications this would be when the last of the original applicants was no longer resident).

You should check with Moat for full details of all repayment terms.

Who is eligible?

The main groups of people who can get help through the scheme are:

• existing local authority and housing association residents or those in priority need on a social housing list

• key workers – to clarify eligibility visit the Housing Corporation website, www.housingcorp.gov.uk, or contact Moat; and first-time buyers.

In addition, to qualify for Open Market HomeBuy you must:

• be able to finance a minimum of 50 to 60 per cent of your house purchase through a combination of savings and a conventional mortgage loan

• not have a household income of more than £60,000

• have sufficient savings to cover all of the other costs of buying a home, such as a Homebuyer Survey and valuation report, legal fees, stamp duty etc (estimated as between £3,500-4,500)

• pass an eligibility assessment carried out by Moat or Places for People

• not be in rent arrears or in breach of your tenancy agreement if you are a housing association or local council resident.

What HomeBuy products are available?

My Choice HomeBuy

My Choice HomeBuy is an Open Market HomeBuy scheme and is funded in part by the Government and is offered in Kent by Moat which is an equity loan provider in its own right.

How does it work?

You choose a suitable property on the open market, probably finding it through an estate agent.

You will then need to obtain a mortgage through an independent financial advisor, bank or building society. Moat can offer a list of recommended financial advisors who are familiar with Moat and the HomeBuy schemes.

Interested buyers purchase a percentage of the property with this mortgage and any savings or deposit they might have.

Moat offers a shared-equity loan to cover the remaining percentage of the purchase price of the home (between 15-50 per cent) and this loan is secured by a second charge to be paid monthly by the resident.

There is a low monthly interest charge on the loan of up to 1.75 per cent per annum which is included as part of Moat's monthly charge.

Moat also offers New Build Shared Equity which is also a My Choice HomeBuy product and therefore has all of the same key features, but allows buyers to choose a new-build property rather than a property on the open market already.

How to apply for My Choice HomeBuy

The HomeBuy agent for Kent is Moat and you can apply through either the HomeBuy website (www.homebuy.co.uk) or the Moat website (www.moat.co.uk) where you will be prompted to register your details and fill out an application form. Please allow at least 20 minutes to ensure the form is thoroughly completed. If access to a computer is a problem, please phone Moat on 07002 662846 and we will send you the details you need.

Key features

Available throughout England;

• You can borrow between 15-50 per cent of the property price

• If you qualified for a mortgage of £120,000, for example, you could buy a property worth up to £240,000, depending on your circumstances

• You would pay a monthly interest charge on the loan based on 1.75 per cent a year

• You would be able to obtain a conventional mortgage from any qualified lender

• You would not have to pay a deposit, though you could if you wanted to.

















property ladder...

Once Moat receives your application, we will be in touch within eight working days with further details.

Ownhome

Ownhome is a second Open Market HomeBuy scheme and is provided by a partnership between Places for People and the Co-operative Bank and is partly funded by the Government. Places for People is an equity loan provider in its own right.

How does it work?

You choose a suitable property on the open market.

You will then need to obtain a mortgage through the Co-operative Bank.

Buyers purchase a percentage of the property with this mortgage and any savings or deposit you might have.

Key features

Available throughout England;

- You can borrow between 20-40 per cent of the property price
- If you qualified for a mortgage of £120,000, for example, you could buy a property worth up to £200,000, depending on your circumstances;
- You would need to get your conventional mortgage loan from the Co-operative Bank in the first instance;
- You would not have to make any payments on the equity loan for the first five years;
- After these five years, you would be charged at a fixed rate of 1.75 per cent interest on the equity loan each year. After a further five years this will increase to a fixed rate of 3.75 per cent
- You would not have to pay a deposit, though you could if you wanted to.

Places for People offers a shared equity loan to cover the remaining percentage of the purchase price of the home (between 20-40 per cent) and this loan is secured by a second charge to be paid monthly by the resident.

How to apply for Ownhome

Please contact Places for People on 0845 607 0110 or visit www.ownhome.co.uk.

You can also apply to Ownhome directly, or through www.homebuy.co.uk.

New Build HomeBuy

Moat works in partnership with leading developers to build brand new houses and apartments on a part-buy/part-rent basis through New Build HomeBuy.

As the HomeBuy agent for Kent, Essex and Sussex, Moat can also offer buyers similar new-build properties in these areas, through other housing associations.

Applicants usually purchase 50 per cent shares in these homes, though shares between 25 and 75 per cent may be available. A subsidised rent is payable on the remaining share. Please note shares available vary by scheme and you should check the individual property details for further information.

New Build HomeBuy enables people to get a foot on the property ladder and at a later stage when they can afford to do so and if they so choose, to purchase more shares in the property until they own the property outright (this is known as staircasing). At this point no rent will be payable on the remaining share though service charges will still apply.

Resales

Moat manages more than 4,000 properties on a part buy/part rent basis. Some of these homes and homes managed by other housing associations in Kent, Essex and Sussex become available for resale.

Moat's role as HomeBuy agent means that we will advertise these properties to interested applicants and give them the opportunity to purchase the share from the existing owner.

Properties are usually available within most of the areas in which we operate across the South East.

If you broaden your requirements on your application to include a wider geographical area, you increase your chances of being offered a resales property. (Please note that if you require a bungalow, these are very rarely available for resale and there are always very high levels of demand for them).

New Build Discounted Rent

Discounted Rent is predominantly for key workers, however, on occasion other priority individuals can be accepted, subject to individual scheme criteria.

The scheme offers key workers the opportunity to rent a newly built home, at approximately 80 per cent of ordinary market rents for homes of similar size and specification in the surrounding areas.

It is also possible should you initially rent a property under this scheme that at a later date you may be able to apply to purchase the property under the terms of the New Build HomeBuy scheme.

Rent to HomeBuy

This is a new pilot scheme to support first-time buyers into affordable home ownership by renting first and buying later.

Under the scheme, eligible households earning £60,000 a year or less will be able to rent a new home at specific new-build developments, provided through Moat or through other housing associations in Kent, Essex and Sussex in Moat's role as HomeBuy agent.

The rent will be payable at a discounted rate for a period of two to three years. You will have the option to buy a part share in the home.

The affordable rent, which will be 80 per cent of the market rent or less, will enable the household to save for a deposit to buy a share in the home.

Social HomeBuy

Social HomeBuy offers some housing association residents the opportunity to buy either a share or 100 per cent of the home they currently rent.

You will need to contact your own landlord if you are interested in buying your housing association rented home.

Moat has a small allocation of funding for Moat residents in Kent, Sussex and London.

Please contact Moat's social HomeBuy officer, Saira Newvell, on 07002 662846, to obtain further information and an application form.

First-Time Buyers' Initiative (FTBI)

Moat offers FTBI homes in the South East. The scheme applies to new-build homes and the way the FTBI works is simple. You buy your brand new home with an affordable mortgage and with government assistance.

You have 100 per cent ownership of your home and take out an affordable mortgage for a minimum of 50 per cent of the full purchase price through a normal lender. The Government then provides additional assistance to buy up to the full purchase price.

Your mortgage repayments will be your only outlay for the first three years of ownership. After this time, the government (via a National HomeBuy agent) will charge a fee of one per cent of the Government's contribution.

This fee will rise to a maximum of three per cent after five years in the property.

When owners sell their FTBI home, they will repay the Government's contribution by way of a share of the sale proceeds. So, if the Government initially assisted the purchase with 25 per cent contribution, the repayment will be 25 per cent of the total value when it is sold.

You can choose to repay the Government and increase your share of future sale proceeds at any time.

The repayments are calculated at the current market value, this is called 'staircasing'. For example, you may want to increase your future share of sale proceeds from 50 per cent to 60 per cent of the value of your home.

The minimum additional purchase is 10 per cent of the market value.

FTBI homes are also flexible enough to allow you to move home with the minimum of fuss. After the sale of your home, you'll simply repay the Government its percentage of the equity, based on the final sale valuation.

Moat is currently marketing new FTBI homes throughout Kent – please contact Sarah Mason, Moat's FTBI sales and marketing officer on 07002 662846.

What other costs do I need to be aware of with any of these schemes?

It is important to consider the costs and responsibilities of buying your own home before making a decision to go ahead.

You may wish to take your own independent advice before making any commitment.

The amount you can afford to borrow will depend on your income.

An independent financial adviser will be able to explain the costs of buying and Moat can offer a list of recommended financial advisors who are familiar with Moat and the HomeBuy schemes.

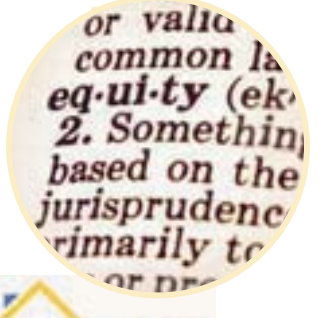
Where do I go for further advice?

Moat should be your first point of contact if you have any questions about any of the schemes.

Can can contact them by telephone on 07002 662846 or by email at marketing@moat.co.uk.









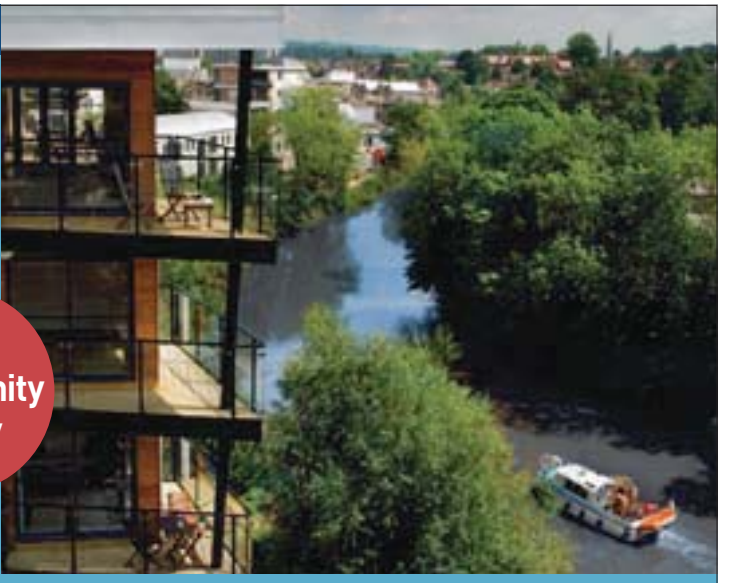
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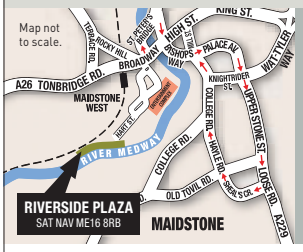
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moat developments in Kent

Furfield Park — Maidstone



Developer: George Wimpey

Moat is offering 12, two-bedroom apartments. Each apartment at Furfield Park in Maidstone can offer:

- Fully fitted kitchen with stainless steel oven, hob and hood
- Allocated parking space
- Double glazing throughout
- Gas-fuelled central heating system
- Fitted carpets in the lounge, bedrooms and hallway
- Landscaped areas
- Sky+ connection
- Smoke detectors
- Ten-year NHBC guarantee
- A location only 30 minutes away from Bluewater shopping centre and Ebbsfleet International Station.

Purchase prices at Furfield Park begin at £155,000.

The minimum percentage you can buy is 35 per cent and the properties are available now on a new-build HomeBuy basis.

The minimum income for a single buyer is £23,540 and the minimum joint income is £26,485.

Bridgefield — Ashford



Developer: Persimmon Homes

Moat is offering 30 homes in total at Bridgefield in Ashford.

There are three, two-bedroom homes, 14, three-bedroom homes, five, four-bedroom homes, and eight, five-bedroom homes. Each house at Bridgefield offers:

- Fully fitted Moore kitchen (Strata range) with oven, hob and hood
- Allocated parking space (garage to selected homes)
- Double glazing throughout
- Gas-fuelled central heating system
- Private gardens to selected homes
- TV and telephone points to the living room and master bedroom
- Some homes with live/work facilities, with the ground floor capable of being utilised as a full working office with its own kitchen, WC and space for a number of desks.
- Ten-year NHBC guarantee
- An additional en-suite in selected homes.

Purchase prices at Bridgefield begin at £68,000. The minimum percentage you can buy is 25 per cent and the properties at Bridgefield are available on a New Build HomeBuy basis.

The minimum income for a single buyer is £25,500 and the minimum joint income is £28,750.

The Kilns — Ditton, near Tonbridge



Developer: Taylor Wimpey

Moat is offering three, two-bedroom apartments. Each apartment at The Kilns in Ditton, near Tonbridge, offers:

- Fully fitted kitchen with stainless steel oven, hob and hood, fridge/freezer plus a washer dryer
- Allocated garage
- Double glazing throughout
- Fitted carpets in the lounge, bedrooms and hallway
- Communal Sky connection
- Smoke detectors
- Ten-year NHBC guarantee

Purchase prices at The Kilns begin at £175,000.

The minimum percentage you can buy is 45 per cent and the properties are available to reserve from plan now on a new-build HomeBuy basis.

The minimum income for a single buyer is £24,750 and the minimum joint income is £25,200.

Medway Gate — Rochester



Developer: Persimmon Homes

Moat is offering 25, three and four-bedroom homes at Medway Gate in Cuxton, near Rochester.

There are nine, three-bedroom and seven, four-bedroom Moat homes available now. Each house at Medway Gate offers:

- Fully fitted kitchen with oven, hob and hood
- Two allocated parking spaces
- An en-suite bathroom in addition to a family bathroom
- Downstairs cloakroom with WC
- Double glazing throughout
- Gas-fuelled central heating system
- Vinyl flooring to all wet areas
- Private turfed gardens
- TV and telephone points in the living room and master bedroom
- Smoke detectors
- Ten-year NHBC guarantee

Purchase prices at Medway Gate begin at £195,000. The minimum percentage you can buy is 25 per cent and the properties at Medway Gate are available on a New Build HomeBuy basis.

The minimum income for a single buyer is £26,129 and the minimum joint income is £29,882.

Sovereign Quarter — Ditton, near Tonbridge



Developer: Taylor Woodrow and Persimmon

Moat has completed on phase one of Sovereign Quarter and is now happy to be able to offer 33 apartments and houses at phase two of Sovereign Quarter in Gillingham. There are four, one-bedroom apartments, 14, two-bedroom apartments, two, two-bedroom houses, six, three-bedroom houses and seven, four-bedroom houses available. A home at Sovereign Quarter offers:

- Fully fitted kitchen with stainless steel oven, hob and hood
- Double glazing throughout
- Gas-fuelled central heating
- TV/FM aerial and satellite TV socket
- Carpets in all living areas (apartments only)
- Smoke detector
- Ten-year NHBC guarantee

Purchase prices at Sovereign Quarter begin at £125,000.

The minimum percentage you can buy is 50 per cent and the properties are available on a New Build HomeBuy basis.

The minimum income for a single buyer is £21,000 and the minimum joint income is £23,000.

Alternatively, there are three, two-bedroom apartments and one, one-bedroom apartment for intermediate rent from £117.18 per week.

Arterra — Faversham



Developer: Rialto

Moat are offering 17 apartments at Arterra in Faversham.

There are 16, two-bedroom apartments and one, one-bedroom apartment available. Each apartment at Arterra offers:

- Fitted kitchens including oven hob and hood
- Washer/dryer
- Carpet to living areas
- Resident parking spaces
- A location less than a kilometre away from Faversham railway station and only two miles drive from the M2
- Communal gardens to the apartments
- Ten-year NHBC guarantee

Purchase prices at Arterra begin at £115,000.

The minimum percentage you can buy is 35 per cent and the properties are available on a New Build HomeBuy basis.

The minimum income for a single buyer is £20,500 and the minimum joint income is £20,700.

Alternatively, there are six, three-bedroom houses, three, one-bedroom apartments and five, two-bedroom apartments available at Arterra for New Build Discounted Rent from £68.71 per week.

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Interest charge	£140.00
Total monthly cost	£758.53*

3 bedroom house	
Mortgage payment	£773.16
Interest charge	£175.00
Total monthly cost	£948.16*



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*Available on selected plots only and subject to Berkeley Homes terms and conditions. 50% is the maximum MyChoiceHomeBuy assistance. Figures quoted are related to a 25 year repayment mortgage. Not all buyers will qualify for the full assistance. The home buy agent will check and approve buyer eligibility before reservation. Your home may be repossessed if you do not keep up payments on a mortgage or any other debt secured on it. Based on 50% of the release price. Prices correct at time of going to print. Map is not to scale and is indicative only. Train times are indicative only. (Source: Nationalrail.com, July 2008)



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*this represents a share of the open market value of a property at the stated development. A rent & service charge is also payable. terms and conditions and an eligibilty criteria applies.**for further information on ownhome please visit www.ownhome.co.uk

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Street scene at Burlington Place

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HomeBuy
a government-led initiative

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2 Waterstone Park - Greenhithe

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3 The Bridge - Dartford

4 x two and three bedroom houses available

Purchase a home from £69,000
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Available to first time buyers



4 Sycamore Place - Edenbridge

15 x one and two bedroom apartments available

Purchase a home from £55,500
Based on a 30% share purchase
Available to first time buyers



5 Sovereign Quarter - Gillingham

11 x one and two bedroom apartments and 14 x two, three and four bedroom houses available

Purchase a home from £37,500
Based on a 30% share purchase
Available to first time buyers



6 Bridgefield - Ashford

6 x two and three bedroom houses available

Purchase a home from £62,000
Based on a 40% share purchase
Available to first time buyers



7 Arterra - Faversham

17 x one and two bedroom apartments available

Purchase a home from £28,750
Based on a 25% share purchase
Available to first time buyers



8 Meadowbank - Sittingbourne

10 x two bedroom apartments available

Purchase a home from £43,750
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Available to first time buyers



9 Medway Gate - Cuxton

17 x two, three and four bedroom houses available

Purchase a home from £51,000
Based on a 30% share purchase
Available to first time buyers and existing home owners



10 The Kilns - Ditton

3 x two bedroom maisonettes available

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1 Maidstone
2 Greenhithe
3 Dartford
4 Edenbridge
5 Gillingham
6 Ashford
7 Faversham
8 Sittingbourne
9 Cuxton
10 Ditton

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www.moat.co.uk

What is 'New Build HomeBuy'?

Also known as part buy/part rent, this government funded initiative helps first time buyers to get a foot on the property ladder. It's simple, you purchase a share in the property and at a later stage, when you can afford to do so, you can buy the remainder. A subsidised rent is payable on the un-owned share.

Housing associations such as Moat now assists households on incomes of up to £60,000. Minimum income and other eligibility criteria also apply. Contact Moat now for an application form and we'll send you details of forthcoming open days.

Please be aware that certain eligibility criteria applies. Your home is at risk if you do not keep up repayments on a mortgage, rent or any other loan secured on it. Please note that the market value of properties can go down as well as up. Selected homes are available exclusively for key workers, though the definition varies. Please contact Moat for details of the key worker definition for each scheme. Moat Homes Limited is a charitable organisation. 10/08

HomeBuy a government-led initiative

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We have **10 James Martin Coffee Makers** (£29.99) and **10 James Martin Coffee Grinders** (£14.99) to giveaway

James was brought up in a farmhouse in Yorkshire and was discovered by Antony Worrall Thompson whilst training at Scarborough Technical College. Antony brought him to London to work in the kitchens of 190 Queensgate, followed by dell 'Ugo and then onto 2 and 3 star Michelin restaurants in Italy and France. At 21 he was Head Chef at the renowned Hotel du Vin in Winchester where he decided to settle.

Ever since his debut appearance on television in November 1996, James has rarely been off the screen. Currently he's gracing our screens as presenter of BBC 1's hugely successful 'Saturday Kitchen'. He was a regular team member on 'Ready Steady Cook' and in Autumn 2006 gained a whole new army of fans with new found prowess on the dance floor in BBC 1's 'Strictly Come Dancing', where he reached the semi-finals.



James teamed up with Wahl to produce a comprehensive product range. Consisting of 14 products, the range combines high quality and value to provide precision products.

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Q: Whats the make of the Coffee Grinder and Coffee Maker?

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KENT ADULT EDUCATION

Second chance for offenders

By **STEVE KNIGHT**
steve.knight@kosmedia.co.uk

CRIMINALS will be given the chance to turn their lives around by signing up to a new training scheme launched in Kent.

The New Skills, New Lives initiative gives offenders handed community service sentences the opportunity to improve their literacy, numeracy and vocational skills by working with local businesses on a voluntary basis.

Criminals released from prison on a temporary licence will also be able to take part.

The programme has been devised by a number of training providers and colleges in partnership with Kent Probation Area and Kent County Council.

Cllr Mike Hill, cabinet member for youth offending, adult education and community safety, explained the benefits of the scheme.

He said: "It is important to break the cycle of re-offending by giving ex-offenders the opportunity to gain the skills and experience to secure employment, which will in turn help reduce crime in Kent.

"Training and education can literally change the lives of individuals, their families and whole communities."

A special launch for the New Skills, New Lives initiative – the first of its kind in the country – was held at the Kings Hill Conference and Training Centre, near West Malling.

Guest speakers at the gathering included KCC leader Cllr Paul Carter, chief officer of Kent Probation Sarah Billiald, West Kent College principal Bill Fearon, and Train to Gain's learning skills director for the South East Tony Allen.

Project manager Steve Hyland was pleased with the support the scheme is receiving from groups throughout the county.

He said: "We were delighted to secure such prominent speakers because it really reflected the commitment that is being given to this Kent-wide project.

"A lot of people have worked very hard behind the scenes to get us to this stage, so we're confident this launch marks the start of an innovative, sustainable scheme that will have a really positive impact on both individuals and communities."

Train to Gain's Mr Allen added: "New Skills, New Lives is a great example of innovation in using education, training and employment to help cut crime in our communities."

• ***Visit www.kent.gov.uk for more information on community safety, Kent Youth Offending Service and Kent Adult Education Service.***



GUEST SPEAKER: KCC leader Paul Carter

Energising trainees

A TRAINEE engineer from Kent has begun a new course launched by energy giant EDF, aimed at plugging the skills gap in the industry.

Chris Hampton, who lives in Gravesend, is among 18 students on the programme training them to become electrical engineers.

The Engineers Development Programme was designed to bridge the gap between the company's existing apprenticeship and graduate training schemes and is part of its commitment to "develop world class engineers for the power industry", EDF said.

Mr Hampton, 18, is the youngest trainee on the course and said after finishing his A levels he did not know whether to go to university or start work.

"I would say things have worked out rather sweetly as I have a job and will also gain the academic qualifications I need," he said.

He is on his first placement and working on project management skills. He will spend two years experiencing all aspects of the engineering roles before deciding which area to specialise in.

Emma Nicholls, head of people development strategy at EDF, said: "The launch of the programme marks a tremendous milestone for us.

"We must invest in the future engineering talent of our company as well as developing our existing employees to gain enhanced skills and move up the career ladder."

• ***For more information go to www.edfenergy.com/core/careers.***

High praise for media degree

A KENT university's digital media degree course has become the first in the South East to achieve endorsement from two leading industry experts.

Canterbury Christ Church University said the degree had both Apple and Adobe accredited teaching status and successful students would become 'Apple certified professionals' and 'Adobe certified aces'.

The degree covers industry standard web design, graphics, motion graphics, video production and multimedia software.

Alan Meades, programme director of the degree, said: "This demonstrates our commitment to ensuring our students receive the best possible educational foundation in digital media and the related creative arts.

"We have designed the programmes to meet the expectations and requirements of the industry and it is, therefore, incredibly reassuring to have this acknowledged by the two key companies in this field."

Shelley Bartlette, a senior lecturer, added: "This accreditation is a truly exciting and beneficial addition to the course. Taken alongside the digital media degree, it will provide students with a way to communicate industry standard skills in a competitive market and demonstrate their professional knowledge of up-to-date principals and practices."

College signs up to Skills Pledge

A KENT college has pledged to support all its employees develop their basic skills.

Bill Fearon, the principal of West Kent College, signed the Skills Pledge at the University of Greenwich's training centre in Kings Hill, near West Malling. The purpose of the pledge, which is part of the Government's Train to Gain initiative, is to ensure all staff are skilled, competent and able to make a full contribution to the success of the business, he said.

It includes developing skills, including literacy and numeracy, to ensure all employees are qualified to the equivalent of five good GCSEs.

Training opportunities for staff will be offered in the new academic year to help them reach the benchmark level after a survey of employees' abilities is conducted.

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Required
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01795 431500

THE HOUSE FAIRIES requires a permanent
CLEANER-DOMESTIC
£7.00 per hour. Private Sevenoaks company. Full training. Long term prospects. Own transport and References required. Call Jacqueline Bell on 01732 887 091 or email: thehousefairies@tiscali.co.uk

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At our Strood Branch

To apply please contact:
Tanya on: 01634 717 747 or
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Good rates of pay and flexible working hours.

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CALL: 01252 390990.
WEB: www.thomsondirectories.com/distribution

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REQUIRED AT DAVID LLOYD LEISURE CENTRES IN MAIDSTONE AND KINGS HILL

Kings Hill: JOB REF 1810
Shifts: 3.30pm-11.30pm Wed-Sun - 40 hours per week.
Maidstone: JOB REF 1807
Shifts: 1pm-10pm Mon-Fri - 45 hours per week.
Permanent positions
Pay rate for both £6.00p/h.
Although they are set shifts you must be flexible if needed at short notice.
Cleaning experience is an advantage but not essential as training will be provided.
Please call 0800 458 8555 quoting job reference number and leave your name and number on the answering machine
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Harbour Homes UK Ltd

We are now recruiting

FULL TIME SUPPORT WORKERS

for our new mental health care home in Herne Bay

For further information please contact Susan Sykes on 01227 722425 or 07528127190

Forward Care (Residential) Ltd

Providing Residential Care for Adults with Learning Disabilities
Now seeking

Male or Female Support and Senior Support Worker

Vacancies available at our Residential Home in Sittingbourne and Sheerness.
NVQ Level 3 rquired for Senior Support position. Will need to have 6 months experience working with ALD.
Clean driving licence required.

Interested candidates should apply in writing enclosing a recent CV or for further information
Tel: 01795 841220
Administrative Manager / Christine Morgan
Hill Farm, 15 Keycol Hill, Sittingbourne, Kent, ME9 8LZ
Previous applicants need not apply

Supporting communities. Rebuilding lives.

Executive Assistant
Development & Marketing

£18,430 - £22,845 • 37 HOURS PER WEEK
FAVERSHAM

Operating in the drug & alcohol and mental health sectors, KCA (UK) provides a wide range of high quality and innovative specialist services for adults and young people.

Your role will be central to the development process: preparing, producing, proof-reading and collating tender documentation and presentations. You will also gather information, coordinate tender timetables and create and manage a development database. You will be involved in marketing KCA by helping produce and coordinate marketing activity, managing the sign-off process and helping with invoicing.

You will provide general support: drafting and producing a wide range of correspondence, arranging meetings, managing diaries, maintaining files and records, managing messages, acting as the first point of contact to all callers and visitors to the team and providing committee or project secretarial service which may include minute taking.

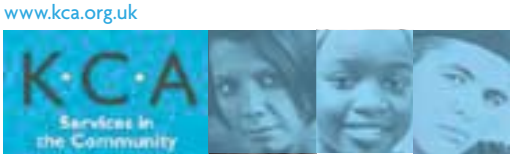
To thrive in this role you will need exceptional written and verbal communication skills and the ability to use Word and PowerPoint to create well set-out and engaging documents and presentations. Attention to detail, excellent proof-reading ability and good time and deadline management are essential. You will possess strong interpersonal and influencing skills, be flexible and adaptable, creative about gaining information, professional and remain calm under pressure.

Application forms and job descriptions can be downloaded from http://www.kca.org.uk/pages/vacancies.html or email recruitment@kca.org.uk Alternatively, write to KCA (UK), Dan House, 44 East Street, Faversham, Kent ME13 8AT or call 01795 590635. Please quote reference: 522.

Closing date: Sunday 9 November 2008.

KCA (UK) is committed to the principles of equality of opportunity for all and welcomes applications from people with experience of substance use or who have had previous problems with substance misuse. Charity no: 292824.

www.kca.org.uk



Supporting communities. Rebuilding lives.

Office Assistant

£14,142 - £16,217 • 37 HOURS PER WEEK
TONBRIDGE

Operating in the drug & alcohol and mental health sectors, KCA (UK) provides a wide range of high quality and innovative specialist services for adults and young people.

You will be the first point of contact to all callers, visitors and service users at the Wealden Centre in Tonbridge, whether by telephone, email, post or in person, ensuring they are dealt with promptly, efficiently and courteously.

As a key member of the Administration team you will have top MS Office skills and a 'can do' approach. You will be able to communicate with a wide cross-section of staff and external contracts in a highly professional manner. You will be provided with the opportunity to develop complex administration skills as the role evolves.

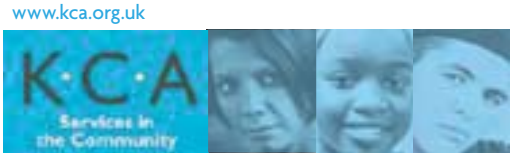
If you would like to discuss this post further, please contact Alan Atkinson, Operations Manager on 01795 590635 or Christine Gordon, Admin Lead on 01795 590795 ex.2. Application forms and job descriptions can be downloaded from http://www.kca.org.uk/pages/vacancies.html or email recruitment@kca.org.uk Please quote reference: 523.

Closing date: Friday 14 November 2008.

Interview date: Wednesday 26 November 2008.

KCA (UK) is committed to the principles of equality of opportunity for all and welcomes applications from people with experience of substance use or who have had previous problems with substance misuse. Charity no: 292824.

www.kca.org.uk



www.redeagle.jobs

Red Eagle

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01303 817040

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A vacancy exists in the Whitstable/Herne Bay area for a
HOME MANAGER.

You will be an RGN with a RMA and at least 2 years experience, working in a managerial role, preferably in (the older people client group)

The main requirements of our Home Managers are to ensure that the highest standard of care is delivered through effective management of staff and achievement of agreed targets. Salary negotiable

To apply, please send your CV to:
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Hengist Road, Westgate-on-Sea, Kent, CT8 8LP
Closing date: 29th October 2008

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Required Saturday & Sunday. 8 hrs per day.

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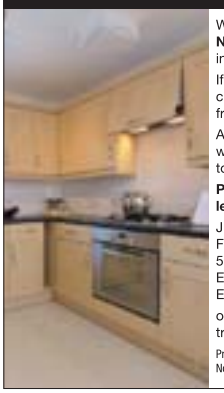
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If you feel you could achieve volume sales in a challenging environment we would like to hear from you.

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Your Skills **Our Vision**

NHS
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From Sheerness to Dungeness, Ashford to Ramsgate, over 710,000 people depend on Eastern and Coastal Kent NHS – and we put them at the heart of everything we do. All our staff work hard every day to improve health and well-being for the local community, to tackle health inequalities and to provide high quality, responsive and efficient services, both directly and through commissioning.

As one of Kent's largest employers, we aim to employ and train a world-class workforce capable of meeting our many challenges. In return for your skills and commitment we offer wide-ranging staff benefits including real investment in personalised career development, flexible working, childcare, final salary pension scheme and in-house discounts.

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- Childcare
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- Enhanced adoption pay
- Flexible Working Policies
- Extensive Training Programs
- Long service awards
- In-house discounts & external benefits

SELECTION OF CURRENT OPPORTUNITIES

ADMIN AND CLERICAL

Job Title: Clinical Workforce Development Manager
Salary: £37,106 to £44,527 pro rata
Band: 8a
Hours: 22.5
Location: Whitstable
Ref: 767-ECC570
Closing date: 30/10/08

Job Title: PA to Head of Business Management Services
Salary: £14,834 to £17,732 pa
Band: 3
Hours: 37.5
Location: Ashford
Ref: 767-ECC565
Closing date: 06/11/08

Job Title: Contracts Manager
Salary: £29,091 to £38,352 pa
Band: 7
Hours: 37.5
Location: Ashford
Ref: 767-ECC566
Closing date: 06/11/08

NURSING AND MIDWIFERY REGISTERED

Job Title: School Staff Nurse
Salary: £20,225 to £26,123 pa
Band: 5
Hours: 30 Term Time Only
Location: Queens House, Ramsgate
Ref: 767-ECC572
Closing date: 27/10/08

Job Title: Safeguarding Liason Specialist Nurse
Salary: £29,091 to £38,352 pa
Band: 7
Hours: 37.5
Location: Protea House, Dover
Ref: 767-ECC571
Closing date: 27/10/08

Job Title: Intermediate Care Nurse
Salary: £20,225 to £26,123 pa
Band: 5
Hours: 37.5
Location: Ashford
Ref: 767-EIC557
Closing date: 30/10/08

Job Title: Staff Nurse
Salary: £20,225 to £26,123 pa
Band: 5
Hours: 19.5
Location: Tenterden
Ref: 767-EIC556
Closing date: 07/11/08

Job Title: Staff Nurse
Salary: £20,225 to £26,123 pa
Band: 5
Hours: 22
Location: Tenterden
Ref: 767-EIC552
Closing date: 07/11/08

ADDITIONAL CLINICAL SERVICES

Job Title: Ward Housekeeper
Salary: £12,922 to £15,950 pa
Band: 2
Hours: 25
Location: Queen Victoria Memorial Hospital, Herne Bay
Ref: 767-EIC555
Closing date: 28/10/08

Job Title: Clinical Coach
Salary: £29,091 to £38,352 pa
Band: 7
Hours: 37.5
Location: Ashford
Ref: 767-ECC576
Closing date: 06/11/08

Job Title: Clinical Coach
Salary: £29,091 to £38,352 pa
Band: 7
Hours: 37.5
Location: Ashford
Ref: 767-ECC567
Closing date: 06/11/08

ALLIED HEALTH PROFESSIONALS

Job Title: Senior Physiotherapist
Salary: £29,091 to £38,352 pro rata
Band: 7
Hours: 37.5
Location: Swale Local Office, Sittingbourne
Ref: 767—-ASH180
Closing date: 29/10/08

Job Title: Specialist Paediatric Physiotherapist
Salary: £24,103 - £32,653
Band: 6
Hours: 37.5
Location: Broadstairs, Kent
Ref: 767-ECC562
Closing date: 03/11/08

Job Title: Specialist Paediatric Physiotherapist
Salary: £24,103 - £32,653
Band: 6
Hours: 37.5
Location: CAC, Kent & Canterbury Hospital & St Nicholas Specialist School, Canterbury
Ref: 767-ECC561
Closing date: 03/11/08

Job Title: Diabetes Specialist Podiatrist
Salary: £29,091 to £38,352 pa
Band: 7
Hours: 37.5
Location: Margate
Ref: 767-ECS518
Closing date: 07/11/08

Job Title: Specialist Intermediate Care Dietitian
Salary: £24,103 to £32,653 pa
Band: 6
Hours: 37.5
Location: Deal, Dover, Thanet, Ashford, Canterbury, Shepway, Herne Bay, Swale.
Ref: 767—-ASH132
Closing date: 21/11/08

Job Title: Psycho-Social Occupational Therapist x2
Salary: £24,103 to £32,653 pa
Band: 6
Hours: 37.5
Location: Folkestone and Ashford
Ref: 767-EIC559
Closing date: 29/11/08

For further information and to apply, please visit www.eastcoastkentpct.nhs.uk

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Phone: 01634 337111 email: moltj001@medway.org.uk

Teacher of Humanities

Ref: CA0315

Salary: Main/upper scale pay, plus SEN points

Are you committed to the development of young people to help them reach their potential? Are you resourceful, flexible and enthusiastic? If so, this could be the job for you.

The Will Adams Centre is a KS4 pupil referral unit located in Gillingham, Kent. The school provides support and educational opportunities to students who have been permanently excluded from mainstream school or who find it difficult to access their educational entitlement. You will have key responsibility for developing and delivering a range of programs, including GCSE, to students who are disaffected or those with behavioural/emotional difficulties. You must be registered with the GTC and have proven experience of teaching humanities.

In return, we can offer:

- the opportunity to develop teaching skills;
- a welcoming and supportive environment
- a commitment to your professional development.

Any offer of appointment will be subject to a Criminal Records Bureau enhanced disclosure.

For more information and an application form, please contact Mrs J Patterson, Headteacher, on 01634 337111.

Closing date: 31 October 2008

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Sevenoaks District Council

Community & Planning Services Department

CCTV Operator

£15,027 p.a. - £18,316 p.a. rising to £ 19,442 p.a. with exceptional performance (pay award pending) Plus a final salary contributory pension scheme

We are looking for a CCTV Operator to work in the Sevenoaks CCTV control Room. The individual must be suitably qualified and experienced. The role will involve monitoring and proactive patrol via view screens. The individual will be required to operate all the equipment, cameras and to comply with relevant legislation, CCTV code of practice all operational control room procedures at all times, on a rotating 24 hour shift pattern including Christmas, weekends & bank holidays.

The CCTV control room receives out-of hours emergency calls you will be responsible for ensuring these calls are dealt with effectively and implement the Council's 24-hour emergency call out arrangements when required.

This is a key role in the Council's overall Community Safety Strategy and if you feel you have the required abilities and experience, we would be delighted to hear from you.

Starting salary will be dependent upon skills and experience and appointment is subject to completion of a Criminal Records Bureau and police checks before commencement of employment.

For an informal discussion about this post, please contact Sharon Wright, CCTV Control Room Manager on 01732 227291.

Our staff benefits package includes, a final salary contributory pension scheme, flexible annual leave and working arrangements, free centre membership of Sencio's Leisure Centres in the District, a childcare vouchers scheme, free car parking at place of work and excellent training and development opportunities.

To apply on-line please visit our website @ www.sevenoaks.gov.uk/jobs. You may also contact the Human Resources team for an information pack and application form by calling the recruitment voicemail on 01732 227102 (24 hours) or by e-mailing recruitment@sevenoaks.gov.uk quoting the reference CS.902

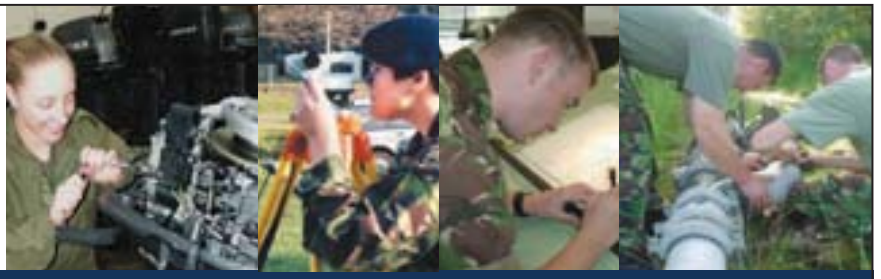
Closing date: 11th November 2008

Interview dates: 20th & 21st November 2008

Sevenoaks District Council is committed to being an Equal Opportunities Employer

www.sevenoaks.gov.uk

INVESTOR IN PEOPLE



The Royal School of Military Engineering Programme Area Leader (PAL)

Salary £30,312 - £35,000

MidKent College (MKC) is delighted to partner the Royal School of Military Engineering (RSME) at Brompton Barracks, Chatham.

We will provide the trades and technical training for over 8500 Royal Engineers each year and are recruiting a number of key posts to complement the teams already in place at the RSME.

If you are experienced and qualified in any of the Trades below and would enjoy passing your skills and experience onto young soldiers, then this could be the ideal opportunity for you.

You would work within an established team to manage a number of Instructors delivering accredited trade training. Management or supervisory experience is therefore important along with the ability to plan and organise course schedules and maintain tight administration within your area of responsibility.

Although this role carries a teaching element, previous teaching experience is not essential as you will benefit form support and training to provide you with the additional skills you will need and we will provide you with the opportunity to gain teaching qualifications.

If this sounds like the right role for you – get in touch now.

- **Building & Construction**
- **Design Draughtsman (Building)**
- **Electrical & Mechanical Draughtsman**
- **Construction Materials Testing**
- **Surveying**
- **Fitter (Engines)**

Successful applicants will need to demonstrate that they have the practical skills, knowledge of their trade and the potential to develop into first class instructors..

For an application form and job description please: Visit our website www.midkent.ac.uk
Email: rsme.recruitment@midkent.ac.uk
Telephone 01634 884555 (24 hour answer machine)

For an informal discussion on these positions, please call: **Ken Pullan on 07725128661**

Closing Date Wednesday 11th November 2008

MidKent College is an equal opportunity employer

MKC Training Services Limited
at The Royal School of Military Engineering

The College is committed to Equal Opportunities and to selection on merit. It welcomes applications from all sections of society.We particularly welcome and encourage applications from under represented groups including black, minority ethnic and disabled people.

MidKent College

MidKent College based in the Medway Towns and Maidstone is seeking to appoint to the following post:

Programme Led Apprenticeships Co-ordinator

Ref: FPR04

1 Year Fixed-term Contract - Part-time 18.5 hours per week
Salary: £19,736 - £25,441 pro-rata

Our Business Development Unit (BDU) is seeking to recruit a Programme Led Apprenticeships Co-ordinator. The successful candidate will work with departments to identify and support learners studying full-time vocational courses. You will assist learners seeking employment at the end of their course and help them to successfully complete their Apprenticeship. The ideal candidate will have good organisational skills and be able to use a range of IT packages to produce reports. An understanding of Apprenticeships would be advantageous.

Closing date: Friday, 7 November 2008

MidKent College is working in partnership with RBLI Employment Solutions to support individuals who have a disability or health condition in the application, interview and employment with the college. If you would like any further information regarding RBLI, or require assistance with your application process then please contact RBLI on 0800 783 1144 or visit their website www.rbli.co.uk for information, advice and guidance.

The College is committed to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of young people and vulnerable adults and anyone applying for work with the College is expected to share this commitment. Any offer of employment is subject to an Enhanced Criminal Records Bureau Disclosure.

Application forms and further details are available from www.midkent.ac.uk. Alternatively, please e-mail job.applications@midkent.ac.uk. For individuals without access to e-mail or the internet please call the Personnel department on 01634 845402 (24 hour answer machine). In all communication with the College please quote the appropriate job title and reference number.

MidKent College is an equal opportunities employer

Action for Business College

RBLI



To advertise in this section

01303 817040

Kent County Council

Capital Programme Manager

Starting salary £35,370, with progression through Contribution Related Pay to £40,705 per annum

Aylesford - 37 hours per week

The waste management team deals with 800,000 tonnes of household waste across Kent every year. We are embarking on a long-term programme to improve our facilities and infrastructure, and we need someone with the skills and flair to make this happen.

Your role will be to co-ordinate and move forward a £30m programme to ensure timely delivery to budget, meeting the expectations of Kent's public and waste partners. You will be at the forefront of project management and enjoy the challenge of new solutions to secure best value.

If you have the drive to carry through complex projects, this job could be for you. You will have the skills and experience to deal with a range of professional disciplines that will be involved in the programme delivery including land acquisition, planning and construction. **Ref: ER/08/0129.**

Closing date: Midday, 11th November 2008.

Procurement and Contracts Officer

Starting salary £26,159, with progression through Contribution Related Pay to £29,920 per annum

Aylesford - 37 hours per week

Procuring the best and most effective contracts for managing Kent's Household Waste is a vital part of our business. With a total budget of £68m in 2009/10, we have to ensure that excellent contracting arrangements are in place. We have a vast range of procurement opportunities on the horizon, both external contracts and new in-house arrangements. You will move forward our programme of work, working through the whole cycle of the procurement process.

Waste Management can offer you a supportive team, excellent career development and a great place to work. In return, we need someone who has the experience and skills to undertake contract procurement, an eye for detail, can deal confidently with our contractors, and would be considered as a Completer-Finisher. **Ref: ER/08/0130.**

Closing date: Midday, 11th November 2008.

Data Monitoring Officer

Starting salary £20,061, with progression through Contribution Related Pay to £22,825 per annum

Aylesford - 37 hours per week

Are you a numbers person?

Do you like checking data, facts and figures?

If you have answered yes to one or both of these, then we may have the job for you.

At Waste Management, we manage the disposal of 800,000 tonnes of Kent's household waste each year and we have a number of performance measures that need to be monitored and reported. We are developing new systems to provide electronic submission of data from our contractors and you will assist with this process, ensuring our systems are accurate and well managed.

If you have experience in managing performance data, attention to detail and like to interpret data, looking for trends and anomalies, we would like to hear from you. **Ref: ER/08/0131.**

Closing date: Midday, 4th November 2008.

To apply, visit www.kent.gov.uk/jobs Alternatively, please email recruitment.line@kent.gov.uk or call 0845 8247 904. Please quote the appropriate reference number.



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Kent County Council

Project Support Officer and Personal Assistant – to the Head of Minority Communities Achievement Service (MCAS) and Head of Specialist Teaching Service (STS)

Starting salary £18,288 with progression through Contribution Related Pay to £20,061 p.a.

The Heads of the Minority Communities Achievement Service (MCAS) and Specialist Teaching Service (STS) require a motivated individual to join the Children, Families & Education Directorate.

You will need to have the initiative, confidence, excellent secretarial skills and the ability to work under pressure across a wide range of projects, tasks and priorities.

Fully competent in the use of Microsoft Word, Excel and PowerPoint, you must be able to work under minimum of supervision in a proactive way, meet tight deadlines and possess the ability to work as part of a team.

You will occasionally be expected to minute meetings and attend conferences so the ability to travel is essential.

This position is subject to an enhanced disclosure application to the Criminal Records Bureau.

To apply, visit www.kent.gov.uk/jobs Alternatively, please email recruitment.line@kent.gov.uk or call 0845 8247 904. Please quote reference number CFE/08/0567.

Closing date: Midday, 13th November 2008.

Interview date: 4th December 2008.



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www.kent.gov.uk/jobs

Sir Joseph Williamson's Mathematical School
Maidstone Road Rochester Kent ME1 3EL
Tel: 01634 844008
Email: office@sirjosephwilliamson.medway.sch.uk
Website: www.sirjosephwilliamson.medway.sch.uk

A Specialist Voluntary Controlled School in Mathematics, Computing and Humanities
An 11-18 Boys' Grammar School of 1180 students including 300 in the co-educational Sixth Form

TEACHER OF CHEMISTRY

Required for January 2009, an enthusiastic and dynamic Chemistry teacher to join a well resourced Chemistry department with a growing number of A Level students.

The successful candidate will be:
- An effective classroom practitioner
- Experienced at teaching Chemistry at Key Stage 4 and 5 and Science at Key Stage 3
- Committed to enabling all students to achieve their full potential
- Motivated
- Keen to engage pupils

The school was judged to be 'outstanding' in its latest OFSTED report, with students who 'really enjoy school and value the time they spend in classrooms and activities', and has recently achieved a Medway Council Gold Award in recognition of excellence in its provision of CPD.

The teaching of Chemistry in the school is focussed on practical activities to develop students understanding through careful observation and analysis of results, providing a stimulating learning environment.

For further details and an application form please contact the Headteacher's PA, Ms Jacqueline Harrison, or visit out website www.sirjosephwilliamson.sch.uk

Any offer of employment will be subject to a satisfactory Enhanced Criminal Records Bureau check

Closing date for applications - Friday, 14th November 2008

JobsforKent.co.uk
The smart way to find a job in the County



The Royal School of Military Engineering Instructors

Salary £28,219 - £30,312

MidKent College (MKC) is delighted to partner the Royal School of Engineering (RSME) at Brompton Barracks, Chatham.

We will provide the trades and technical engineering training for over 8500 Royal Engineers each year and are recruiting a number of key posts to complement the teams already in place at the RSME.

If you are a qualified & experienced Trades Engineer looking for a change in career, then this could be the ideal opportunity for you.

For Trades roles, you are unlikely to have formal teaching experience but this is not essential as we will provide you with the skills you need and work with you to help you gain the appropriate teaching qualifications.

If the prospect of passing your skills onto Royal Engineer sappers appeals to you, then consider the positions shown below and get in touch with us.

- **Electrical Instructors**
- **Air Conditioning and Refrigeration Instructors**
- **Heating and Plumbing Instructors**
- **Electrical and Mechanical Draughtsman**
- **Land Surveyors**

These are key appointments and the successful candidates will need to demonstrate that they have the practical skills and knowledge of their trade and have the potential to develop into first class instructors. Training will be provided.

For an application form and job description please: Visit our website www.midkent.ac.uk
Email: rsme.recruitment@midkent.ac.uk
Telephone 01634 845402 (24 hour answer machine)

For an informal discussion on these positions, please call: **Ken Pullan on 07725128661**

Closing Date Friday 15th November 2008

Mid-Kent College is an equal opportunity employer

MKC Training Services Limited
at The Royal School of Military Engineering

The College is committed to Equal Opportunities and to selection on merit. It welcomes applications from all sections of society.We particularly welcome and encourage applications from under represented groups including black, minority ethnic and disabled people.

Foster carers wanted

The Caldecott Foundation, which cares for vulnerable children who have experienced extreme trauma and disruption, seeks dedicated and highly motivated foster carers. Comprehensive training and support given, plus excellent rates of pay.
Contact Jamie Bromfield or Erica Eversfield on 01303 815648 or email fostering@caldecottfoundation.co.uk

The Caldecott Foundation, Smeeth, Ashford, Kent TN25 6SP.

Teachers Needed

Primary, Secondary and SEN.

Capita Education Resourcing is the leading provider of educational staff throughout the UK.

Our dedicated and friendly Kent team can provide you with:

- ✔ Daily/weekly/termly supply opportunities
- ✔ Excellent rates of pay – paid weekly
- ✔ Free in-service training and CPD assessment
- ✔ Free use of resource centre
- ✔ An out-of-hours service

Even if you can only spare one day a week we would love to hear from you.

To find out more information and to register with us, please call us free on:
0800 731 6871
or e-mail
jean.read@capita.co.uk

CAPITA EDUCATION RESOURCING (Agy)

Committed to equal opportunities

NORTHFLEET SCHOOL FOR GIRLS

As a Building Schools for the Future school we are undergoing a significant new build project commencing the summer of 2008. Our curriculum too is changing to meet the best needs of students. As well as the traditional pathways through A Levels we are committed to providing Diploma, Young Apprenticeships and a range of vocational courses. At KS3 we are developing flexible learning to energise and challenge our students.
Our new focus means we have an opportunity for a

Careers Officer

20 hours per week term time only (hours to be agreed)

Kent Scheme Grade 5 - £7584 - £8340 p.a.

At Northfleet School for Girls our careers programme is an integral part of pupils' education. We wish to appoint a Careers Officer to provide a guidance service for the whole school community in partnership with the Connexions Service and in support of the Personal, Social, Health Education (PSHE) curriculum.

Applicants should have experience of working with young people in a similar category and have an NVQ in Careers Guidance or similar work related experience.Northfleet School for Girls is an equal opportunities employer and operates a no smoking policy within the whole school site.

For further information please contact Mrs Theresa Davies or Mrs Sam Chisholm or check the school website – www.northfleetgirls.kent.sch.uk

Northfleet School for Girls Tel: 0844 477 2525 email:personnel@northfleetgirls.kent.sch.uk

Closing date for applications: Friday, 31 October 2008

Ashford Christ Church

A Church of England Specialist Maths and Computing College
Headteacher: Catherine Barber, Millbank Road, Kingsnorth, Ashford, Kent TN23 3HG

Are you the type of person that feels that sometimes life takes itself a little too seriously, that people want to see a face they recognise, trust and know are welcoming in whatever circumstances? Can you raise yourself each day to make others smile and in return know that you have a gift that is valued for its importance as well as the message it sends?

Christ Church is at the heart of its community and proud of its Christian ethos. It is fully inclusive and offers excellent pastoral care to students within a welcoming environment.

Headteacher and Board of Governors are seeking to recruit a passionate, hardworking and dedicated.

SENIOR RECEPTIONIST

Post available 37 hours per week – 52 weeks per year

Responsible to the Bursar for the front of school welcome, you will be the first point of contact with staff, pupils, parents and outside agencies. It is therefore very important that you present a cheerful disposition, are efficient and effective in operating telephones whilst greeting people and ensuring they are well looked after.

Kent Pay Scheme Band 4 Pts 11 – 14 (£15,826 – £16,627).

Visit our website: www.ashfordchristchurch.com

For further information and an application pack please contact James Norton at jamesnorton@ashfordchristchurch.com

Telephone: 01233 623465 or Fax: 01233 636861

Closing date: Monday 10th November 2008.

Appointment is subject to Enhanced CRB check.

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The Royal School of Military Engineering Lecturers

Salary c£36k (up to £45k for Senior Lecturer Civil Engineering)

MidKent College (MKC) is delighted to partner the Royal School of Engineering (RSME) at Brompton Barracks, Chatham.

We will provide the trades and technical engineering training for over 8500 Royal Engineers each year and are recruiting a number of key posts to complement the teams already in place at the RSME.

We are currently building our management structure and now need Degree Qualified Engineers in a number of disciplines to take up lecturing posts within the RSME Professional Engineering Wing.

Teaching experience would be an advantage but we recognise that it is unlikely that this has been within your experience to date unless you are already in the education sector, so we will provide you with the skills and qualifications required.

If the prospect of using your professional engineering skills and experience to develop the engineering capability of tomorrows military engineer, then we would like to hear from you.

- **Construction**
- **Civil Engineering**
- **Mechanical**
- **Electrical**
- **Project Management**

These are key appointments and candidates will need to demonstrate that they can communicate effectively and have a strong understanding of their engineering discipline.

For an application form and job description please: Visit our website www.midkent.ac.uk
Email: rsme.recruitment@midkent.ac.uk
Telephone 01634 845402 (24 hour answer machine)

For an informal discussion on these positions, please call: **Ken Pullan on 07725128661**

Closing Date Friday 15th November 2008

Mid-Kent College is an equal opportunity employer

MKC Training Services Limited at The Royal School of Military Engineering

The College is committed to Equal Opportunities and to selection on merit. It welcomes applications from all sections of society.We particularly welcome and encourage applications from under represented groups including black, minority ethnic and disabled people.

Swale Borough Council
North Kent Coast

Technical Officers

1 x 37 hours per week (ref: 408HO1)
1 x 18.5 hours per week (ref: 409HO1)
£17,559 - £21,957 (Pay award pending)

Improving the health and welfare of the Borough's residents is an important role we take seriously. To help us achieve this aim we are looking for enthusiastic and committed people to fill two full time posts, and one part time post.

Both the above posts will deal with a varied range of reactive and pro-active enforcement work relating to housing, fire precautions, drainage and caravan sites and other general duties of the department.

Housing Initiatives Officer

37 hours per week (ref: 403HO1)
£17,559 - £21,957 (Pay award pending)

You will mainly be involved in working on initiatives to improve private sector housing, bring empty homes back into use and provide energy related advice and initiatives to alleviate fuel poverty. We are looking for a strong communicator with experience of promotional work and the ability to develop and deliver new initiatives.

These posts will regularly be in contact with the public. You will need to have a strong customer focus with the ability to communicate well both verbally and in writing. Good organisation, administration skills and IT knowledge are essential.

In addition to salary, we can offer you a generous annual leave allowance, paid bank holidays, flexitime and the Local Government final salary pension scheme. You must have a full driving licence and the use of a car for which an allowance is provided.

For an informal chat contact Glyn Pritchard 01795 417233 or Brian George on 01795 417232.

For further information and an application form contact Human Resources, Swale Borough Council, Swale House, East Street, Sittingbourne, Kent ME10 3HT. Telephone Sittingbourne (01795) 417414 (24 hour voice mail)

E-Mail: hr@swale.gov.uk Website: http://jobs.swale.gov.uk

Closing Date: 10th November 2008
Interviews W/C 17th November 2008

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JobsforKent.co.uk

achievement employability experience development

Sheppey College

Sheppey College is part of Canterbury College. Canterbury College is a leading FE and HE College which offers opportunities and an environment in which our 800 staff and 12,000 learners can reach their potential, so we can achieve our goal of being one of the best Colleges by 2010. To support this, the College has been undergoing a £50 million re-development, which opened in January 2008. We are now developing plans for Phase 3, for completion in 2012.

Learning Support - Essential Skills **08/147**
18.5 hours per week, 38 weeks per year term time, salary £16,914 pro rata per annum

For an application pack please visit www.canterburycollege.ac.uk or call the Human Resources Office on 01227 811282 (24hr answerphone) quoting the post reference.
The closing date for the above post is Monday 10th November 2008 at 12 noon

Staff benefits include:

- Pensions and Life Assurance Scheme
- Generous Holiday Allowance
- Proximity to Mainbus / Train Stations
- Staff Discount Scheme

Canterbury College is an equal opportunity employer

achievement employability experience development

Canterbury College

Canterbury College is a leading FE and HE College which offers opportunities and an environment in which our 800 staff and 12,000 learners can reach their potential, so we can achieve our goal of being one of the best Colleges by 2010. To support this, the College has been undergoing a £50 million re-development, which opened in January 2008. We are now developing plans for Phase 3, for completion in 2012.

Lecturer Public Services **08/145**
37 hours per week, salary range from £18,387 - £26,363 per annum

Lecturer - HE Media (Moving Image) **08/146**
9.25 hours per week, salary range £18,387 - £26,363 pro rata per annum

Lecturer Basic Skills for Construction Students **08/68**
37 hours per week, salary range £18,387 - £26,363 per annum

Trainer Demonstrator Public Services **08/140**
37 hrs per week, 38 weeks per year term time, salary starting from £18,963 pro rata per annum

Resource Assistant Animal Care **06/08**
18.5 hours per week, salary range £15,085 pro rata per annum

Resource Assistant Electrical Installations **08/144**
37 hrs per week, salary starting from £15,085 per annum

Database and Reporting Team Administrator **DBRA2**
37 hrs per week, salary starting from £18,963 per annum

Full Time Cleaner **08/21**
37 hours per week, salary £12,351 per annum ie £6.41 per hour

Supply NVQ Assessors are required in the following areas:

Cleaning	**S/ASS/CLE**
Security	**S/ASS/SEC**
Health & Social Care(CYP)	**S/ASS/HSC**

Various hours available, salary range from £18,295 - £26,232 pro rata per annum

Supply Lecturers required in the following areas:

Catering & Hospitality	**S/C&H**
Public Services	**S/PS**
Early Years	**S/EY**
Health & Social Care	**S/HSC**
French	**S/FRENCH**
Beauty Therapy	**S/BEAUTY**
Counselling	**S/COUN**
Mental Health	**S/MH**
Information, Advice & Guidance	**S/IAG**
Dental Nursing	**S/DENTAL**
First Aid	**S/FA**
Key Skills Application of Number within Animal Care	**S/KSAC**

Various hours available, salary range £18,387 - £26,363 pro rata per annum

For an application pack please visit www.canterburycollege.ac.uk or call the Human Resources Office on 01227 811282 (24hr answerphone) quoting the post reference.
The closing date for the above posts is Monday 10th November 2008 at 12 noon

Staff benefits include:

- Pensions and Life Assurance Scheme
- Sports Hall and Gym
- Proximity to Mainbus / Train Stations
- Generous Holiday Allowance
- Close to City Centre
- Staff Discount Scheme

Canterbury College is an equal opportunity employer

JobsforKent.co.uk

Accountancy

Admissions Assistant
Canterbury
Salary: salary starting from £15,085 pro rata per annum
Closing Date: 27 October 2008
To apply/more information:
Human Resources Office
Canterbury College
Quoting Job Ref: AA1
Tel: 01227 811282
(24hr answerphone)
Email
applications@jobsforkent.co.uk

Administration, Secretarial, PA

Course Administrator
Canterbury
Salary: TBA
To apply/more information:
Jeanette - Amacsports Ltd
Quoting Job Ref: kos
Tel: 01227 831840
Email jeanette@amacsports.co.uk

Database and Reporting Team Administrator
Canterbury
Salary: £18,963
Closing Date: Monday 10 November 2008 at Noon
To apply/more information:
Human Resources Office
Canterbury College
Quoting Job Ref: DBRA2
Tel: 01227 811282
Email Recruitment@
cant-col.ac.uk

PA to Head of Business Management Services
Ashford
Salary: £14,834 to £17,732
Closing Date: 6 November 2008
To apply/more information:
Eastern & Coastal PCT
Quoting Job Ref: 767-ECC565
Email
applications@jobsforkent.co.uk

Registry Assistant
Canterbury
Salary: salary starting from £15,085 pro rata per annum
Closing Date: 27 October 2008
To apply/more information:
Human Resources Office
Canterbury College
Quoting Job Ref: 07/73
Tel: 01227 811282
(24hr answerphone)
Email
applications@jobsforkent.co.uk

Catering, Hospitality

Food and Beverage Assistant
Maidstone
Salary: TBA
Require Saturday & Sunday 8 hrs per day.
To apply/more information:
Philippa Baker
The Populars Nursing Home
Quoting Job Ref: kos
Tel: 01622 752872
Email
philippa.baker@foresthc.com

Customer Service, Call Centre

Call Allocator
Ashford
Salary: tba
To apply/more information:
Mr Pluckrose
Ashbridge Domestic Appliances
Quoting Job Ref: kos
Email
applications@jobsforkent.co.uk

Domestic

Assistant Cleaning Coordinator (Nights)
Canterbury
Salary: salary starting from £15,085 per annum
Closing Date: 27 October 2008
To apply/more information:
Human Resources Office
Canterbury College
Quoting Job Ref: ACC1
Tel: 01227 811282
(24hr answerphone)
Email
applications@jobsforkent.co.uk

Cleaner
Canterbury
Salary: £12,351 p.a.
Closing Date: Monday 10 November 2008 at Noon
To apply/more information:
Human Resources Office
Canterbury College
Quoting Job Ref: 08/21
Tel: 01227 811282
Email Recruitment@cant-col.ac.uk

CLEANER- DOMESTIC
Sevenoaks
Salary: £ 7.00p/h
To apply/more information:
Jacqueline Bell
House Fairies (The)
Quoting Job Ref: kos
Tel: 01732 887 091
Email
thehousefairies@tiscali.co.uk

Cleaning Coordinator (Day and Night Shift Pattern)
Canterbury
Salary: salary starting from £16,914 per annum
Closing Date: 27 October 2008
To apply/more information:
Human Resources Office
Canterbury College
Quoting Job Ref: CLC1
Tel: 01227 811282
(24hr answerphone)
Email
applications@jobsforkent.co.uk

Domestic
Maidstone
Salary: TBA
Require Saturday & Sunday 4 hrs each morning
To apply/more information:
Philippa Baker
The Populars Nursing Home
Quoting Job Ref: kos
Tel: 01622 752872
Email
philippa.baker@foresthc.com

Domestic Trades

CLEANING STAFF REQUIRED AT DAVID LLOYD LEISURE CENTRES IN MAIDSTONE
Maidstone
Salary: £6.00p/h
To apply/more information:
Emprise Group
Quoting Job Ref: 1807
Tel: 0800 4588555
Email
applications@jobsforkent.co.uk

CLEANING STAFF REQUIRED AT DAVID LLOYD LEISURE KINGS HILL
Kings Hill
Salary: £6.00p/h
To apply/more information:
Emprise Group
Quoting Job Ref: 1810
Tel: 0800 4588555
Email
applications@jobsforkent.co.uk

Education, Teacher, School

Kent County Council
To learn about teaching careers in Kent, visit
www.kent-teach.com

Academic Support Assistant
Sheerness
Salary: salary starting from £15,085 pro rata per annum
Closing Date: 27 October 2008
To apply/more information:
Human Resources Office
Sheppey College
Quoting Job Ref: 08/74
Tel: 01227 811282
(24hr answerphone)
Email
applications@jobsforkent.co.uk

Administrative Assistant
Sheerness
Salary: salary starting from £15,085 per annum
Closing Date: 27 October 2008
To apply/more information:
Human Resources Office
Sheppey College
Quoting Job Ref: 03/14
Tel: 01227 811282
(24hr answerphone)
Email
applications@jobsforkent.co.uk

Careers Officer
Gravesend
Salary: £7584 - £8340 PA
Closing Date: Friday 31 October
To apply/more information:
Teresa Davies
Northfleet School for Girls
Quoting Job Ref: kos
Tel: 0844 4772525
Email personnel@
northfleetgirls.kent.sch.uk

Catering Assistant
Canterbury
Salary: Salary £12,351 pro rata per annum
Closing Date: 27 October 2008
To apply/more information:
Human Resources Office
Canterbury College
Quoting Job Ref: 04/145
Tel: 01227 811282
(24hr answerphone)
Email
applications@jobsforkent.co.uk

Co-ordinator of WBL and other Part-time Motor Vehicle programmes including IMI ATA
Canterbury
Salary: salary starting from £27,209 per annum
Closing Date: 27 October 2008
To apply/more information:
Human Resources Office
Canterbury College
Quoting Job Ref: CO106
Tel: 01227 811282
(24hr answerphone)
Email
applications@jobsforkent.co.uk

Coordinator Mathematics
Canterbury
Salary: salary starting from £27,209 per annum
Closing Date: 27 October 2008
To apply/more information:
Human Resources Office
Canterbury College
Quoting Job Ref: 08/61
Tel: 01227 811282
(24hr answerphone)
Email
applications@jobsforkent.co.uk

Coordinator Public Services
Canterbury
Salary: salary starting from £27,209 per annum
Closing Date: 27 October 2008
To apply/more information:
Human Resources Office
Canterbury College
Quoting Job Ref: CO46
Tel: 01227 811282
(24hr answerphone)
Email
applications@jobsforkent.co.uk

Examinations/ Administrative Assistant
Sheerness
Salary: salary starting from £15,085 pro rata per annum
Closing Date: 27 October 2008
To apply/more information:
Human Resources Office
Sheppey College
Quoting Job Ref: 06/176
Tel: 01227 811282
(24hr answerphone)
Email
applications@jobsforkent.co.uk

Floristry Technician
Medway
Salary: £11,599 - £17,200 pro-rata
Closing Date: Friday, 31 October 2008
To apply/more information:
Mid Kent College
Quoting Job Ref: P0457
Tel: 01634 845402
Email
job.applications@midkent.ac.uk

Full-time Teacher
Ashford
Salary: TBA
Closing Date: Friday 21st November
To apply/more information:
Personnel Department
Ethelbert Children's Services
Quoting Job Ref: kos
Tel: 01843 823762
Email
applications@jobsforkent.co.uk

Head of Faculty Science and Humanities
Ashford
Salary: salary starting from £42,128 per annum
Closing Date: 27 October 2008
To apply/more information:
Human Resources Office
Canterbury College
Quoting Job Ref: 06/103
Tel: 01227 811282
(24hr answerphone)
Email
applications@jobsforkent.co.uk

Information, Advice and Guidance Advisor
Medway
Salary: £23,669 - £30,027
Closing Date: Friday, 31 October 2008
To apply/more information:
Mid Kent College
Quoting Job Ref: M0262
Tel: 01634 845402
Email mail
job.applications@midkent.ac.uk

Learning Support - Essential Skills
Isle of Sheppey
Salary: £16,914 pro rata
Closing Date: Monday 10
To apply/more information:
Human Resources Office
Canterbury College
Quoting Job Ref: 08/147
Tel: 0122
Email Recruitment@
cant-col.ac.uk

Learning Support Basic Skills and ESOL
Canterbury
Salary: salary starting from £16,914 pro rata per annum
Closing Date: 27 October 2008
To apply/more information:
Human Resources Office
Canterbury College
Quoting Job Ref: 08/143
Tel: 01227 811282
(24hr answerphone)
Email
applications@jobsforkent.co.uk

Learning Support Construction and Key Skills
Sheerness
Salary: Salary starting from £16,914 pro rata per annum
Closing Date: 27 October 2008
To apply/more information:
Human Resources Office
Sheppey College
Quoting Job Ref: 08/92
Tel: 01227 811282
(24hr answerphone)
Email
applications@jobsforkent.co.uk

Learning Support Independent Living and Leisure Skills
Canterbury
Salary: salary starting from £16,914 pro rata per annum
Closing Date: 27 October 2008
To apply/more information:
Human Resources Office
Canterbury College
Quoting Job Ref: 08/82
Tel: 01227 811282
(24hr answerphone)
Email
applications@jobsforkent.co.uk

Lecturer - HE Media (Moving Image)
Canterbury
Salary: £18,387 - £26,363 pro rata
Closing Date: Monday 10 November 2008 at Noon
To apply/more information:
Human Resources Office
Canterbury College
Quoting Job Ref: 08/146
Tel: 01227 811282
Email Recruitment@
cant-col.ac.uk

Lecturer Animal Care and Land Based
Canterbury
Salary: salary range £18,387 - £26,363 pro rata per annum
Closing Date: 27 October 2008
To apply/more information:
Human Resources Office
Canterbury College
Quoting Job Ref: 01/144
Tel: 01227 811282
(24hr answerphone)
Email
applications@jobsforkent.co.uk

Lecturer Animal Care and Land Based
Canterbury
Salary: salary range £18,387 – £26,363 pro rata per annum
Closing Date: 27 October 2008
To apply/more information:
Human Resources Office
Canterbury College
Quoting Job Ref: 07/87
Tel: 01227 811282
(24hr answerphone)
Email
applications@jobsforkent.co.uk

Lecturer Basic Skills
Canterbury
Salary: salary range £18,387 - £26,363 pro rata per annum
Closing Date: 27 October 2008
To apply/more information:
Human Resources Office
Canterbury College
Quoting Job Ref: 05/08
Tel: 01227 811282
(24hr answerphone)
Email
applications@jobsforkent.co.uk

Lecturer Basic Skills for Construction Students
Canterbury
Salary: £18,387 - £26,363

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Closing Date: Monday 10 November 2008 at Noon
To apply/more information: Human Resources Office Canterbury College
Quoting Job Ref: 08/68
Tel: 01227 811282
Email Recruitment@cant-col.ac.uk

Lecturer Early Years
Canterbury
Salary: salary range £18,387 - £26,363 per annum
Closing Date: 27 October 2008
To apply/more information: Human Resources Office Canterbury College
Quoting Job Ref: 08/110
Tel: 01227 811282 (24hr answerphone)
Email applications@jobsforkent.co.uk

Lecturer Hair Design
Medway
Salary: : £25,092 to £28,719
Closing Date: Friday, 31 October 2008
To apply/more information: Mid Kent College
Quoting Job Ref: P0128
Tel: 01634 845402
Email job.applications@midkent.ac.uk

Lecturer Health and Social Care
Canterbury
Salary: salary range £18,387 - £26,363 pro rata per annum
Closing Date: 27 October 2008
To apply/more information: Human Resources Office Canterbury College
Quoting Job Ref: 07/81
Tel: 01227 811282 (24hr answerphone)
Email applications@jobsforkent.co.uk

Lecturer Public Services
Canterbury
Salary: £18,387 - £26,363
Closing Date: Monday 10 November 2008 at Noon
To apply/more information: Human Resources Office Canterbury College
Quoting Job Ref: 08/145
Tel: 01227 811282
Email Recruitment@cant-col.ac.uk

Lecturers
Chatham
Salary: circa. £36k
Closing Date: Friday 15th November 2008
To apply/more information: Ken Pullan Mid Kent College
Quoting Job Ref: kos
Tel: 01634 845402
Email rsme.recruitment@midkent.ac.uk

Online Exams Assistant
Canterbury
Salary: Salary starting from £15,085 pro rata per annum
Closing Date: 27 October 2008
To apply/more information: Human Resources Office Canterbury College
Quoting Job Ref: 06/37
Tel: 01227 811282 (24hr answerphone)
Email applications@jobsforkent.co.uk

Programme Led Apprenticeships Co-ordinator
Medway
Salary: £19,736 - £25,441 pro-rata
Closing Date: Friday 7 November 2008
To apply/more information: Personnel Mid Kent College
Quoting Job Ref: FPR04
Tel: 01634 845402
Email job.applications@midkent.ac.uk

Resource Assistant Animal Care
Canterbury
Salary: £15,085 pro rata
Closing Date: Monday 10 November 2008 at Noon
To apply/more information: Human Resources Office Canterbury College
Quoting Job Ref: 06/08
Tel: 01227 811282
Email Recruitment@cant-col.ac.uk

Resource Assistant Electrical Installations
Canterbury
Salary: £15,085
Closing Date: Monday 10 November 2008 at Noon
To apply/more information: Human Resources Office Canterbury College
Quoting Job Ref: 08/144
Tel: 01227 811282
Email Recruitment@cant-col.ac.uk

Supply Lecturer - Beauty Therapy
Canterbury
Salary: £18
Closing Date: Monday 10 November 2008 at Noon
To apply/more information: Human Resources Office Canterbury College
Quoting Job Ref: S/Beauty
Tel: 01227 811282
Email Recruitment@cant-col.ac.uk

Supply Lecturer - Catering and Hospitality
Canterbury
Salary: £18,387 to £26,363 Pro Rata
Closing Date: Monday 10 November 2008 at Noon
To apply/more information: Human Resources Office Canterbury College
Quoting Job Ref: S/C&H
Tel: 01227 811282
Email Recruitment@cant-col.ac.uk

Supply Lecturer - Counselling
Canterbury
Salary: £18,387 to £26,363 Pro Rata
Closing Date: Monday 10 November 2008 at Noon
To apply/more information: Human Resources Office Canterbury College
Quoting Job Ref: S/Coun
Tel: 01227 811282

Supply Lecturer - Dental Nursing
Canterbury
Salary: £18,387 to £26,363 Pro Rata
Closing Date: Monday 10 November 2008 at Noon
To apply/more information: Human Resources Office Canterbury College
Quoting Job Ref: S/Dental
Tel: 01227 811282
Email Recruitment@cant-col.ac.uk

Supply Lecturer - Early Years
Canterbury
Salary: £18,387 to £26,363 Pro Rata
Closing Date: Monday 10 November 2008 at Noon
To apply/more information: Human Resources Office Canterbury College
Quoting Job Ref: S/EY
Tel: 01227 811282
Email Recruitment@cant-col.ac.uk

Supply Lecturer - First Aid
Canterbury
Salary: £18,387 to £26,363 Pro Rata
Closing Date: Monday 10 November 2008 at Noon
To apply/more information: Human Resources Office Canterbury College
Quoting Job Ref: S/FA
Tel: 01227 811282
Email Recruitment@cant-col.ac.uk

Supply Lecturer - French
Canterbury
Salary: £18,387 to £26,363 Pro Rata
Closing Date: Monday 10 November 2008 at Noon
To apply/more information: Human Resources Office Canterbury College
Quoting Job Ref: S/French
Tel: 01227 811282
Email Recruitment@cant-col.ac.uk

Supply Lecturer - Health and Social Care
Canterbury
Salary: £18,387 to £26,363 Pro Rata
Closing Date: Monday 10 November 2008 at Noon
To apply/more information: Human Resources Office Canterbury College
Quoting Job Ref: S/HSC
Tel: 01227 811282
Email Recruitment@cant-col.ac.uk

Supply Lecturer - Information, Advice and Guidance
Canterbury
Salary: £18,387 to £26,363 Pro Rata
Closing Date: Monday 10 November 2008 at Noon
To apply/more information: Human Resources Office Canterbury College
Quoting Job Ref: S/IAG
Tel: 01227 811282
Email Recruitment@cant-col.ac.uk

Supply Lecturer - Key Skills Application of Number with Animal Care
Canterbury
Salary: £18,387 to £26,363 Pro Rata
Closing Date: Monday 10 November 2008 at Noon
To apply/more information: Human Resources Office Canterbury College
Quoting Job Ref: S/KSAC
Tel: 01227 811282
Email Recruitment@cant-col.ac.uk

Supply Lecturer - Mental Health
Canterbury
Salary: £18
Closing Date: Monday 10 November 2008 at Noon
To apply/more information: Human Resources Office Canterbury College
Quoting Job Ref: S/MH
Tel: 01227 811282
Email Recruitment@cant-col.ac.uk

Supply Lecturer - Public Services
Canterbury
Salary: £18,387 to £26,363 Pro Rata
Closing Date: Monday 10 November 2008 at Noon
To apply/more information: Human Resources Office Canterbury College
Quoting Job Ref: S/PS
Tel: 01227 811282
Email Recruitment@cant-col.ac.uk

Supply Lecturer Skills for Working Life
Sheerness
Salary: Various hours available, salary range £18,387 - £26,363 pro rata per annum
Closing Date: 27 October 2008
To apply/more information: Human Resources Office Sheppey College
Quoting Job Ref: SH/SFL
Tel: 01227 811282 (24hr answerphone)
Email applications@jobsforkent.co.uk

Supply NVQ Assessors
Canterbury
Salary: £18,295 - £26,232 pro rata
Closing Date: Monday 10 November 2008 at Noon
To apply/more information: Human Resources Office Canterbury College
Quoting Job Ref: See above
Tel: 01227 811282
Email Recruitment@cant-col.ac.uk

Supply NVQ Assessors Early Years
Canterbury
Salary: salary range £18,295 - £26,232 pro rata per annum
Closing Date: 27 October 2008
To apply/more information: Human Resources Office Canterbury College
Quoting Job Ref: S/NVQ/EY
Tel: 01227 811282 (24hr answerphone)
Email applications@jobsforkent.co.uk

Supply Trainer Demonstrator Beauty and Holistic Therapies
Canterbury
Salary: salary starting from £18,963 pro rata per annum
Closing Date: 27 October 2008
To apply/more information: Human Resources Office Canterbury College
Quoting Job Ref: S/TD/BHT
Tel: 01227 811282 (24hr answerphone)
Email applications@jobsforkent.co.uk

Teacher of Chemistry
Medway
Salary: TBA
Closing Date: Friday, 14th November 2008
To apply/more information: Jacqueline Harrison Sir Joseph Williamson's Mathematical School
Quoting Job Ref: kos
Email harrisonj@sirjoseph williamson.medway.sch.uk

Teacher of Science
Aylesford
Salary: Main Scale
Closing Date: 29th October 2008
Aylesford School - Sports College is an innovative forward looking Specialist Sports College. We have a strong community ethos where we put the learner at the heart of everything we do. At Aylesford School - Sports College we can offer you:- * A brand new school. * Outstanding new facilities in all areas. * NQT/ New staff induction package that is second to none. * A highly regarded CPD programme with personal professional pathways. * Your own laptop. * A buzzing and vibrant staff who are friendly and keen to help one another. * A forward looking curriculum with individualised pathways for students. We are looking for a committed professional who:- * Is able to start in January 2009. * Can motivate pupils through the curriculum. * Has the desire to make the difference. * Is focussed on developing their career further. * Is able to teach Science at key stage 3 and 4. Applications by letter, enclosing a CV to Jill McKenna, Aylesford School - Sports College, Teapot Lane, Aylesford, Kent ME20 7JU or e-mail: jill.mckenna@aylesford.kent.sch.uk Interviews to be held on 31st October 2008.
To apply/more information: Jill McKenna Aylesford School - Sports College
Quoting Job Ref: kos
Tel: 01622 717341
Email jill.mckenna@aylesford.kent.sch.uk

Trainer Demonstrator Public Services
Canterbury
Salary: £18,963 pro rata
Closing Date: Monday 10 November 2008 at Noon
To apply/more information: Human Resources Office Canterbury College
Quoting Job Ref: 08/140
Tel: 01227 811282
Email Recruitment@cant-col.ac.uk

Engineering, Manufacturing, Utilities

Field Service Engineer
Sevenoaks
Salary: TBA
To apply/more information: LMS Ltd
Quoting Job Ref: kos
Tel: 01732 743901
Email sales@lms.ltd.uk

Programme Area Leader
Chatham
Salary: £30,312 to £35,000
Closing Date: Wednesday 11th November 2008
To apply/more information: Ken Pullan - Mid Kent College
Quoting Job Ref: kos
Tel: 01634 884555
Email rsme.recruitment@midkent.ac.uk

Industrial, Warehouse, Factory

Night Operations Co-Ordinator
Tunbridge Wells
Salary: TBA
To apply/more information: Georgina Davis Turner Fine Foods
Quoting Job Ref: kos
Email georgina@turnersfinefoods.co.uk

Information Tech, Internet, Telecoms

Network Technician (Standard)
Canterbury
Salary: salary starting from £16,914 annum
Closing Date: 27 October 2008
To apply/more information: Human Resources Office Canterbury College
Quoting Job Ref: NT1
Tel: 01227 811282 (24hr answerphone)
Email applications@jobsforkent.co.uk

Service Desk Technician Level 1
Canterbury
Salary: salary starting from £15,085 per annum
Closing Date: 27 October 2008
To apply/more information: Human Resources Office Canterbury College
Quoting Job Ref: SDT 1
Tel: 01227 811282 (24hr answerphone)
Email applications@jobsforkent.co.uk

Technician to Support Applications (Standard)
Canterbury
Salary: salary starting from £18,963 annum
Closing Date: 27 October 2008
To apply/more information: Human Resources Office Canterbury College
Quoting Job Ref: ATS
Tel: 01227 811282 (24hr answerphone)
Email applications@jobsforkent.co.uk

Management, Senior Positions

Clinical Workforce Development Manager
Whitstable
Salary: £37,106 to £44,527 pro rata
Closing Date: 30 October 2008
To apply/more information: Eastern & Coastal PCT
Quoting Job Ref: 767-ECC570
Email applications@jobsforkent.co.uk

Contracts Manager
Ashford
Salary: £29,091 to £38,352
Closing Date: 6 Novembver 2008
To apply/more information: Eastern & Coastal PCT
Quoting Job Ref: 767- ECC572
Email applications@jobsforkent.co.uk

OPERATIONS MANAGER
Dartford
Salary: £37,543-£40,101 NJC Paypoint: 46-49
Closing Date: 31st October
To apply/more information: Liz Woodward DGS Mencap Ltd
Quoting Job Ref: kos
Tel: 01322 281833
Email liz.woodward@dgsmencap.org.uk

Quality and Innovations Manager
Canterbury
Salary: salary starting from £37,529 per annum
Closing Date: 27 October 2008
To apply/more information: Human Resources Office Canterbury College
Quoting Job Ref: 08/113
Tel: 01227 811282 (24hr answerphone)
Email applications@jobsforkent.co.uk

Motor Trade, Driver

DRIVERS
Maidstone
Salary: tba
To apply/more information: Best Network
Quoting Job Ref: kos
Tel: 01622 664999
Email applications@jobsforkent.co.uk

Qualified MOT Tester
Medway
Salary: TBA
To apply/more information: Tanya Mr Clutch
Quoting Job Ref: kos
Tel: 01634 717747
Email reception@mrclutch.com

Not for profit, Charities

TRUSTEES
Faversham
Salary: Expenses Paid
To apply/more information: Anton Derkacz KCA (UK)
Quoting Job Ref: kos
Tel: 01795 590635
Email anton.derkacz@kca.org.uk

Nursing, Medicine, Care Work

Dispenser/Receptionist
Medway
Salary: TBA
To apply/more information: Julie Allen St Werburgh Medical Practice
Quoting Job Ref: kos
Email julie.allen@nhs.net

FULL TIME SUPPORT WORKERS
Herne Bay
Salary: tba
To apply/more information: Susan Sykes Harbour Homes UK Ltd
Quoting Job Ref: kos
Tel: 01227 722425

Home Carers
Tonbridge
Salary: £8.50 per hour for specialist contracts. £7.25 to £9.25 for ad-hoc calls
To apply/more information: Ashton Macey Ltd Ashton Macey Ltd
Quoting Job Ref: kos
Tel: 01732 523477
Email applications@jobsforkent.co.uk

Home Manager
Herne Bay
Salary: TBA
Closing Date: 29 October 08
To apply/more information: Springfield Residential Home
Quoting Job Ref: kos
Email applications@jobsforkent.co.uk

Intermediate Care Nurse
Ashford
Salary: £20,225 to £26,123 pa
Closing Date: 30 October 2008
To apply/more information: Eastern & Coastal PCT
Quoting Job Ref: 767-EIC557
Email applications@jobsforkent.co.uk

Male or Female Support and Senior Support Worker
Sittingbourne
Salary: TBC
To apply/more information: Christine Morgan Forward Care
Quoting Job Ref: kos
Tel: 01795 841220
Email applications@jobsforkent.co.uk

NIGHT TEAM LEADER
Ashford
Salary: £7.54 per hour
Closing Date: 17/10/08
To apply/more information: Helen - Age Care
Quoting Job Ref: kos
Tel: 01892 654027
Email applications@jobsforkent.co.uk

Safeguarding Liason Specialist Nurse
Dover
Salary: £29,091 to £38,352 pa
Closing Date: 27 October 2008
To apply/more information: Eastern & Coastal PCT
Quoting Job Ref: 767-ECC571
Email applications@jobsforkent.co.uk

School Staff Nurse
Ramsgate
Salary: £20,225 to £26,123 pa
Closing Date: 27 October 2008
To apply/more information: Eastern & Coastal PCT
Quoting Job Ref: 767-ECC572
Email applications@jobsforkent.co.uk

Senior Care Assistants (Full Time or Part Time)
Tunbridge Wells
Salary: TBA
To apply/more information: David Wicksteed Greensleeves Homes Trust
Quoting Job Ref: kos
Tel: Monday 3rd November 2008
Email david.wicksteed@greensleeves.org.uk

Staff Nurse
Tenterden
Salary: £20,225 to £26,123 pa
Closing Date: 7 November 2008
To apply/more information: Eastern & Coastal PCT
Quoting Job Ref: 767-EIC556
Email applications@jobsforkent.co.uk

Staff Nurse
Tenterden
Salary: £20
Closing Date: 7 November 2008
To apply/more information: Eastern & Coastal PCT
Quoting Job Ref: 767-EIC552
Email applications@jobsforkent.co.uk

Print, Packaging, Distribution

Leafelt Distributors
Kent
Salary: TBA
Excellent rates per 1,000. Local areas for successful candidates. Please call for more information
To apply/more information: Harvey Softners Ltd
Quoting Job Ref: kos
Tel: 01483 753426
Email applications@jobsforkent.co.uk

TEMPORARY DISTRIBUTORS
Kent
Salary: TBC
Required to deliver the Thomson Local in Ashford, Folkestone, Charing, Goudhurst, Hawkhurst, Hythe, New Romney, Tenterden & surrounding areas. Good rates of pay and flexible working hours. You will need a car to transport your directories. www.thomsondirectories.com/distribution.
To apply/more information: Thomson Local
Quoting Job Ref: kos
Tel: 01252 390990
Email distribution@thomsonlocal.com

Public Sector, Social Services

Capital Programme Manager
Maidstone
Salary: Starting salary £35,370, with progression through Contribution Related Pay to £40,705 per annum
Closing Date: 11th November 2008
To apply/more information: Kent County Council
Quoting Job Ref: ER/08/0129
Tel: 0845 8247 904.
Email recruitment.line@kent.gov.uk or

CCTV Operator
Ashford
Salary: £15,027 p.a. - £18,316 p.a.
Closing Date: 11th November 2008
To apply/more information: Sevenoaks District Council
Quoting Job Ref: CS.902
Tel: 01732 227102
Email recruitment@sevenoaks.gov.uk

Data Monitoring Officer
Maidstone
Salary: Starting salary £20,061, with progression through Contribution Related Pay to £22,825 per annum
Closing Date: 4 November 2008
To apply/more information: Kent County Council
Quoting Job Ref: ER/08/0131
Tel: 0845 8247 904
Email recruitment.line@kent.gov.uk

Education Welfare Officer
Whitstable
Salary: £20,061 - £22,825 per annum pro rata
Closing Date: 3rd November 2008
To apply/more information: Heidi McGee Kent County Council
Quoting Job Ref: CFE/08/0534
Tel: 01227 284495.
Email recruitment.line@kent.gov.uk

Procurement and Contracts Officer
Maidstone
Salary: Starting salary £26,159, with progression through Contribution Related Pay to £29,920 per annum
Closing Date: 11th November 2008
To apply/more information: Kent County Council
Quoting Job Ref: ER/08/0130
Tel: 0845 8247 904
Email recruitment.line@kent.gov.uk

Retail, Wholesale, Sales

Experienced Part Time Telesales
Ashford
Salary: £7.50 hr + commission + bonuses
To apply/more information: Plus Publishing Services
Quoting Job Ref: kos
Email applications@jobsforkent.co.uk

Sales Negiotiator
Faversham
Salary: £20 k Basic OTE £40k
To apply/more information: Jim Holliday Agenda Advertising
Quoting Job Ref: kos
Email applications@jobsforkent.co.uk

PUBLIC NOTICES

PICNIC PENNY LIMITED
Company Number 05619620

Notice is hereby given, pursuant to Section 98 of the Insolvency Act 1986 that a meeting of creditors of the above named Company will be held at Nexus House, 2 Cray Road, Sidcup, Kent DA14 5DB, on 31 October 2008, at 10.30 am for the purposes mentioned in Sections 100 and 101 of the said Act.

Proxy forms to be used for the purposes of the above Meeting must be lodged, accompanied by Statements of Claim, at the registered office of the Company situated at Nexus House, 2 Cray Road, Sidcup, Kent DA14 5DB, not later than 12.00 noon on the business day prior to the date of the meeting.

Notice is also hereby given, pursuant to Section 98(2)(a) of the Insolvency Act 1986, that Nedim Ailyan and Andrew Tate, of Abbott Fielding, Nexus House, 2 Cray Road, Sidcup, Kent DA14 5DB, are qualified to act as Insolvency Practitioners in relation to the above Company, and will furnish Creditors, free of charge, with such information concerning the Company's affairs as they may reasonably require.

Dated 17 October 2008
By Order of the Board
P Morgan, Chairman

To advertise in this section

01303 817040

LICENSING ACT 2003
NOTICE OF APPLICATION FOR VARIATION OF A PREMISES LICENCE

Notice is hereby given that Subrina Hossein has applied to Tonbridge and Malling Borough Council for the grant and variation of a Premises Licence in respect of the premises known as The Tandoori Palace, 10 Bradbourne Road, Ditton, Aylesford, Kent, ME20 6PA, in respect of internal minor building works, the sale of alcohol, the provision of regulated entertainment and late night refreshment.

Details of the register of record of the application can be viewed at Tonbridge and Malling Borough Council, Gibson Building, West Malling, Kent. ME19 4LZ during normal office hours. Any representations from interested parties or responsible authorities must be made in writing to the Council by 23rd November 2008. It is an offence knowingly or recklessly to make false statement in connection with an application and the maximum fine for which a person is liable to a summary conviction is a fine not exceeding £5000.

Highways - District of Canterbury

THE KENT COUNTY COUNCIL
(Old Dover Road, Canterbury) (PROHIBITION OF DRIVING) TEMPORARY ORDER 2008 THE ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984 AS AMENDED BY THE ROAD TRAFFIC (TEMPORARY RESTRICTIONS) ACT 1991

Notice is hereby given that because new gas supply works are proposed to be carried out, the Kent County Council has made an Order prohibiting traffic on Old Dover Road, Canterbury between the roundabout with Upper Bridge Street and the junction with Oaten Hill, on 27 October 2008, for an estimated period of five days or until such works are complete.

The alternative route for through traffic will be via Upper Bridge Street, St George's Place, Upper Chantry Lane and Oaten Hill.

Highways - Borough of Dartford

KENT COUNTY COUNCIL
SPITAL STREET AND HYTHE STREET, DARTFORD (TEMPORARY PROHIBITION OF TRAFFIC) TEMPORARY ORDER 2008 THE ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984 AS AMENDED BY ROAD TRAFFIC (TEMPORARY RESTRICTIONS) ACT 1991

Notice is hereby given that owing to the likelihood of danger to the public whilst an event is held on or near the highway the Kent County Council intends to make an Order prohibiting the use by vehicular traffic on Spital Street from property 19 to its Junction with Hythe Street and Hythe Street from its junction with Spital Street to property 33.

The Order will become effective on 10th November 2008, will be in operation and remain valid for a maximum period of 18 months, the event is planned to take place on the 15th November between the hours of 06:00 and 19:00. These restrictions will be effective when the appropriate signage is in place.

There is no alternative route for the route described.

The purpose of the Order is to facilitate the switching on of Christmas Lights.

Highways - Borough of Maidstone

THE KENT COUNTY COUNCIL
EAST SUTTON ROAD & TUMBLERS HILL) (PROHIBITION OF TRAFFIC) TEMPORARY ORDER 2008 THE ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984 AS AMENDED BY THE ROAD TRAFFIC (TEMPORARY RESTRICTIONS) ACT 1991

NOTICE is hereby given that because works are proposed to be carried out on or near a road, the Kent County Council intends to make an Order prohibiting the use by through traffic on Tumblers Hill and East Sutton Road to the junction of Pleasure House Road on or after Monday 10th November 2008 for 11 weeks and East Sutton Road from the junction of Pleasure House Road to Workhouse Lane on or after Monday 2nd February 2009 for 3 weeks or until such works are completed.

The alternative route for Tumblers Hill/East Sutton Road is for westbound traffic via Pleasure House Road, Chartway Street, A274 North Street, High Street, Broad Street and for eastbound traffic vice versa. The alternative route for East Sutton Road is for westbound traffic via Workhouse Lane, Chartway Street, Pleasure House Road and for eastbound traffic vice versa.

HMP East Sutton Park apologise for any inconvenience caused by these works, which are necessary to install drainage in the highway. Should you require any further information about these works, their contact is Glen Oaten of Clancy Docwra on 07884 473793.

THE KENT COUNTY COUNCIL
(BELL ROAD, MAIDSTONE) (PROHIBITION OF TRAFFIC) TEMPORARY ORDER 2008 THE ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984 AS AMENDED BY THE ROAD TRAFFIC (TEMPORARY RESTRICTIONS) ACT 1991

NOTICE is hereby given that because works are proposed to be carried out on or near a road the Kent County Council intends to make an Order prohibiting the use by through traffic on Bell Road, Maidstone between Wallis Avenue and Brishing Lane on or after Monday 10th November 2008 for a period of up to 4 weeks or until such works are completed.

The alternative route for the route described above is for westbound traffic via Brishing Lane, Wallis Avenue and for eastbound traffic vice versa.

Kier Partnership Homes apologise for any inconvenience caused by these essential works, which are necessary to resurface the carriageway. Should you require any further information about these works, their contact is Chris Kavanagh on 07990 530824.

Highways - District of Sevenoaks

KENT COUNTY COUNCIL
SEVENOAKS RESURFACING (TEMPORARY PROHIBITION OF TRAFFIC) TEMPORARY ORDER 2008 (5) THE ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984 AS AMENDED BY ROAD TRAFFIC (TEMPORARY RESTRICTIONS) ACT 1991

Notice is hereby given that owing to the likelihood of danger to the public works are carried out on or near the highway the Kent County Council has made an Order prohibiting the use by vehicular traffic on Various roads as noted in schedule 1.

The Order will become effective on 27th October 2008, will be in operation and remain valid for a maximum period of 18 months, the works are planned to last as noted in the attached schedule. These restrictions will be effective when the appropriate signage is in place.

The alternative route for the route described above will be as noted in the attached schedule.

The purpose of the Order is to facilitate the resurfacing of the carriageway.

Schedule 1

Road Name	Location	Duration	Alternative Route
Ashgrove Road, Sevenoaks	Weald Road to Ashgrove Road	5 days	Weald Road and Ashgrove Road
Troy Lane, Edenbridge	Whole Length	5 days	No Alternative Route
Kent Hatch Road, Sevenoaks	Whole Length	15 days	Hosey Common Road, Vicarage Hill, High Street, Westerham Road, Limpsfield, Kent Hatch Road

KENT COUNTY COUNCIL
FARLEY LANE, WESTERHAM (TEMPORARY PROHIBITION OF TRAFFIC) TEMPORARY ORDER 2008 THE ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984 AS AMENDED BY ROAD TRAFFIC (TEMPORARY RESTRICTIONS) ACT 1991

Notice is hereby given that owing to the likelihood of danger to the public works are carried out on or near the highway the Kent County Council has made an Order prohibiting the use by vehicular traffic on Farley Lane, Westerham from its junction with Westerham Road for a distance of 300m.

The Order will become effective on 27th October 2008, will be in operation and remain valid for a maximum period of 18 months, the works are planned to take place on the 30th October between the hours of 08:30 and 16:30. These restrictions will be effective when the appropriate signage is in place.

The alternative route for the route described above will be via A25 High Street,B2024 Croydon Road.

The purpose of the Order is to facilitate the removal of a dangerous tree.

Highways - District of Shepway

THE KENT COUNTY COUNCIL
(The Old High Street, Folkestone) (PROHIBITION OF DRIVING) TEMPORARY ORDER 2008 THE ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984 AS AMENDED BY THE ROAD TRAFFIC (TEMPORARY RESTRICTIONS) ACT 1991

Notice is hereby given that because new electrical supply works are proposed to be carried out, the Kent County Council has made an Order prohibiting traffic on The Old High Street, Folkestone from its junction with Rendezvous Street to its junction with Tontine Street on 28 October 2008 for an estimated period of one week or until such works are complete.

There is no alternative route for through traffic access only.

Highways - District of Swale

THE KENT COUNTY COUNCIL
(Bannister Hill, Borden) (PROHIBITION OF DRIVING) TEMPORARY ORDER 2008 THE ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984 AS AMENDED BY THE ROAD TRAFFIC (TEMPORARY RESTRICTIONS) ACT 1991

Notice is hereby given that because overhead electrical maintenance is proposed to be carried out, the Kent County Council intends to make an Order prohibiting traffic on Bannister Hill, Borden between the junction with The Street and Bannister Hall, on or after 11 November 2008, for an estimated period of one week or until such works are complete.

The alternative route for through traffic will be via Hearts Delight, Wrens Road, Sutton Barn Road, Pond Farm Road and The Street, Borden.

THE KENT COUNTY COUNCIL
(Bridge Road, Faversham) (PROHIBITION OF DRIVING) TEMPORARY ORDER 2008 THE ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984 AS AMENDED BY THE ROAD TRAFFIC (TEMPORARY RESTRICTIONS) ACT 1991

Notice is hereby given that because Carriageway Surfacing works are proposed to be carried out, the Kent County Council intends to make an Order prohibiting traffic on Bridge Road, Faversham from form its junction with north Lane to its junction with Front Brents on or after 10 November 2008 for an estimated period of one week (7.30pm to 5am) or until such works are complete.

The alternative route for through traffic will be via as described in column 3 of the schedule to this order.

Specified Road	Length of Road Affected	Alternative Route
Bridge Road, Faversham	From its junction with North Lane to its junction with Front Brents	For vehicles travelling to the north side of Faversham Creek: From the south side of Bridge Road, North Lane, Napoleon Road, Tanners Street, Dark Hill, Davington Hill, Priory Row, Barnfield Road, Reedland Crescent, Bramblehill Road. For vehicles travelling to the south side of Faversham Creek: Brent Road, Brent Hill, Davington Hill, Dark Hill, Flood Lane, West Street, North Lane.

This order will come into force on Monday 10 November 2008, will be in operation when the appropriate signs are erected, and will remain valid for a period of eighteen months. The order will allow the above mentioned restrictions to be implemented as and when required for works of a similar nature at any time for the duration of the order.

Highways - District of Thanet

THE KENT COUNTY COUNCIL
(VARIOUS ROADS, THANET) (WAITING RESTRICTIONS AND STREET PARKING PLACES) (CONSOLIDATION) (AMENDMENT No 18) ORDER 2008

Notice is hereby given that KENT COUNTY COUNCIL propose to make the above named Order under sections 1(1), 2(1) to (3), 3(2), 4(1) and (2), 32(1), 35(1), 45, 46, 49 and 53 of the Road Traffic Regulation Act 1984, and of all other enabling powers, and after consultation with the chief officer of police in accordance with Paragraph 20 of Schedule 9 to the Act:

The effect of the Order will be:-

A254 Margate Road, Ramsgate: prohibition of waiting at any time (double yellow lines) on the Western side from a point in line with the boundary of 388/390 Margate Road to a point in line with the boundary of 396/398 Margate Road;

A254 Margate Road, Ramsgate: prohibition of waiting at any time (double yellow lines) on the Eastern side from the junction of Quantock Gardens to the boundary of 419/415 Margate Road;

A254 Margate Road, Ramsgate: prohibition of waiting at any time (double yellow lines) on the Western side from a point in line with the boundary of 350/352 Margate Road to a point in line with the boundary of 356/358 Margate Road;

A254 Margate Road, Ramsgate: prohibition of waiting at any time (double yellow lines) on the Eastern side from the junction of Homeleigh Road to a point opposite the boundary of 356/358 Margate Road.

Full details are contained in the draft Order which, together with the relevant plans, any Orders amended by the proposals and a statement of reasons for proposing to make the Order may be examined on Mondays to Fridays at Kent Highway Services, Javelin Way Ashford, TN24 8AD, between 8.30am and 5.00pm, and at Thanet District Council, Cecil Street, Margate, during normal opening times.

If you wish to offer support for or object to the proposed Order you should send the grounds in writing to the Transport and Development Planning Team Leader, Kent Highway Services, Javelin Way, Ashford, TN24 8AD or by email to kent.highwayservices@kent.gov.uk by noon on Monday 17 November 2008.

THE KENT COUNTY COUNCIL
(Chatham Street Ramsgate) (PROHIBITION OF DRIVING) TEMPORARY ORDER 2008 THE ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984 AS AMENDED BY THE ROAD TRAFFIC (TEMPORARY RESTRICTIONS) ACT 1991

Notice is hereby given that because property refurbishment works are proposed to be carried out, the Kent County Council has made an Order prohibiting traffic on Chatham Street Ramsgate from its junction with Park Road and Boundary Road to its junction with Shah Place and Hollicondane Road on or after 27 October 2008 for an estimated period of 2 weeks or until such works are complete. The Order will remain valid for a maximum period of 18 months.

The alternative route for through traffic for light vehicles will be via Shah Place and for HGVs via Station Approach Road, Wilfred Road and A253 Park Road.

THE KENT COUNTY COUNCIL
(Victoria Road) (PROHIBITION OF DRIVING) TEMPORARY ORDER 2008 THE ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984 AS AMENDED BY THE ROAD TRAFFIC (TEMPORARY RESTRICTIONS) ACT 1991

Notice is hereby given that because new foul drainage connection works are proposed to be carried out, the Kent County Council has made an Order prohibiting traffic on Victoria Road from its junction with Addington Road and Thanet Road to its junction with St John's Road on or after 27 October 2008 for an estimated period of 7 days or until such works are complete.

The alternative route for through traffic will be via Addington Road, Union Crescent, Cecil Street, Hawley Square, Churchfield Place, Charlotte Square and Charlotte Place.

Specified Road	Length of road affected	Alternative routes
Victoria Road	From the junction with Addington Road and Thanet Road to its junction with St John's Road.	Via Addington Road, Union Crescent, Cecil Street, Hawley Square, Churchfield Place, Charlotte Square and Charlotte Place.
Victoria Road	Suspension of existing one way traffic order between St John's Road and Addington Road.	N/A

For further information, please contact Geoff Mee, Director for Kent Highway Services, on 08458 247 800 (local rate) or visit www.kent.gov.uk/highways

Kent Highway Services

The smart way to find your next job
JobsforKent.co.uk

KOS
Driving
www.carsforkent.co.uk

Sponsored by
AVC
www.activevehicles.co.uk
Telephone (01227) 281818



New Jazz hits same high note but packs more style

FirstDrive
by
STEVELOADER

HondaJazz

HONDA has a new Jazz, but has resisted too much improvisation on a much loved tune.

On the other hand, while the new generation seems familiar there is much more to like, particularly sharper styling than the first stab at this challenging supermini cum MPV design brief.

And this will be key to the intended Jazz audience this time around: the 2002 original drew 60 per cent of its owners from the 56-75 age group, but Honda wants to reach younger buyers this time and could clean up – half of previous Jazz customers went back and bought another and its reliability/customer satisfaction record is impressive.

Ambition

Valuation forecasts support Honda's ambition too, as the new car is predicted to top the second-hand values table in the supermini sector.

It could also claim to be the right car at the right time as people look to cut motoring costs and downsize without loss of space in the face of higher fuel and road tax prices.

The old car could have sold better here anyway,



but small car profitability is always tight and being built at home did not help the Japanese marque's UK dealers when trying to work a deal.

Initial supplies of the new car will also come from Japan, but the launch demand should keep list prices firm.

As this eases they will then be able to source cars from a new UK production line at Swindon alongside the existing CR-V and Civic lines, which could open the flood gates.

For the car looks lower and wider with much of the visual work done simply by double-creasing the bonnet, reversing the pinching effect of the single line on the old car.

The interior was never a weak point, but looks a class above even on the cheaper grades while the rightly lauded 'magic' rear seats have been refined and carried over.

This allows the bases to be flipped up for extra stowage on the floor and with both sides fastened back you could even load a bicycle crossways. The backs also fold down in the conventional way and Honda could not resist using the launch event to show how the flat load bay could accommodate one of the company's other products – a chunky TRX-90 quad-bike.

Other notable nips and tucks are better visibility out of the front quarterlight area, standard fit height adjustment on the driver's seat – it might be supermini-size, but you really do get an MPV feel now if you want it – and further improvement to the ride quality following the mid-life tweak on the Mark I.

The two petrol engines are lively and frugal enough to cover for Honda's obvious omission of a diesel – the company hints at a future hybrid option instead – and so refined.

The company was predicting that the 1.4 ES manual (£11,490) would be the best seller, but admitted that a shifting market place and warnings of a recession now suggest the 1.2 (from £9,990) might give it a run for its money.

And there is another wild card – the all-new i-Shift automated manual transmission. This replaces the old CVT (continuously variable transmission) auto 'box on the previous Jazz, which was frugal and easy to use but could make a nervous driver think the engine was over-revving.

The new arrangement is far superior and, when offered on the 1.4 engine in the new year, will allow that to undercut the fuel consumption of the standard manual and even rival the 1.2 unit, while reducing CO2 emissions to as little as 125g/km.

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INSIDE



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Ford reveals its ace card Page 61



Fiat rises from the dead Page 66

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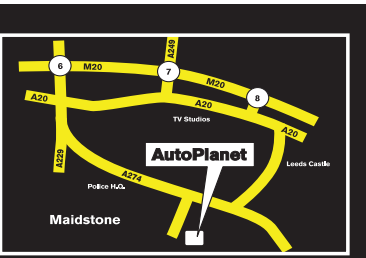
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FIRST GEAR

Compiled by Steve Loader



Captivating deal on big Chevy until end of year

CHEVROLET launched its spacious Captiva SUV last year with a fanfare – prices from £16,995.

Closer inspection though revealed that this was for the asthmatic front-wheel drive only petrol model.

General Motors' value brand is now offering the far more desirable fwd 2.0 VCDi LS diesel for the same price until the end of 2008, saving £1,450 against list price and bringing far better performance and economy – averaging around 40mpg – while also saving around £5,000 against its equivalent Hyundai arch rival, the Santa Fe.

Despite its bargain pricing the Captiva is also a well-styled and competent load lugger and the deal brings an impressive spec: aircon, smart 16-inch alloys, tailgate with separately-opening glass, electrically-adjustable heated door mirrors, eight-way adjustable driver's seat, six-speaker sound system with MP3 socket, steering-wheel mounted audio controls and charcoal-effect roof rails.

New Exeo signals Seat's drive into Mondeo sector

IT COULD look like a climbdown, but Seat's experiment with the Toledo so-called 'booted MPV' is set to end in early 2009 with the arrival of this conventional yet sleek sporting saloon.

The VW-owned Spanish marque says the new Exeo will offer "top quality, smart style and exceptional value for money" for the upper-medium or Ford Mondeo sector.

Standard kit will include USB connectivity – allowing MP3 music players to be used in-car – cruise control, steering wheel-mounted audio controls, dual-zone climate control and alloys yet we can expect it to be keenly priced.



Mini appeal of Skoda Blue Line



SKODA is going after the MINI look with a vengeance with this Fabia BlueLine limited edition.

Just 500 will be made featuring the special package – MINI-esque white roof, new 15-inch alloys and lowered suspension – but it shows how stylish the five-door Czech-built value-for-money supermini can look.

The BlueLine is also a bargain waiting to be snapped up as the asking price brings £750 of add-ons for a premium of just £160 against the Fabia 2 upon which it is based.

Extras gained include its own 'Magic' upholstery, climate control air con, sunglasses compartment and storage boxes under front seats.

The 1.2 70bhp petrol BlueLine costs £9,990, while the 1.4 80bhp diesel costs £11,450.

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Ford changes into supermini top gear

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FordFiesta



HAVING done more than anyone to make the supermini popular in the UK after launching the original Fiesta in 1976, Ford then rested on its laurels.

The company will say the newly-launched replacement is the 'Mark VII', but it is really only the fourth generation.

Ford has turned Fiesta facelifts into an art form and even managed to spin-off the guts of one version to create the underpinnings of the original Ka. You just have to admire such salesmanship and nerve, though it helps when you are market leader and have a vice-like grip on the fleet sector. But times are changing: the nation wants to downsize and Ford would like to ease out of the cutthroat business sector and woo private buyers.

The US car giant is also looking outside the Fiesta's traditional UK and Europe stronghold, to create a global supermini with all the consequent economies of scale.

So, instead of dithering with a facelift of the then all-new – but not especially loved – 2002 Fiesta, Ford has gone for another fresh start.

And it's an impressive one.

Physically, the car is the same scale as before, rather than a 'Super-size Me' supermini like the latest Vauxhall Corsa and Renault Clio. Some may then complain that space in the back could be better, especially for the five-door version, but I thought the kneeroom excellent and lofty passengers will just have to lump it for the terrific coupe-style roofline.

Styling inside is typically well-arranged and durability is top notch, but it is how the Fiesta drives as well as it looks that clinches the deal. First impressions are of a well-judged balance between sharp handling and ride, light yet responsive steering and a terrific gearshift.

It's a tough call to decide on engine too, I liked the all-round competence of the 1.4 TDCi diesel. However, the much-vaunted and frugal road tax-exempt/low emission 1.6TDCi diesel ECOnetic is due in the new year.

Then again, do not ignore the petrol models; they are so quiet and frugal they could also be your best buy if the petrol V diesel pump price gap continues to yawn and your mileages are only average.

Hidsons shows defiance of recession with Seat revamp

DEALERS are hurting and official mention of the 'R-word' this week did not help, but Hidsons motor group declared its optimism by re-launching its Seat Maidstone site.

Mayor of Maidstone Cllr Denise Joy used her office and name to give an extra boost by declaring the revamped showrooms officially open on Tuesday and Hidsons' marketing manager Vicky Plevin told Driving: "The work cost £10,000, which might not sound much when a new site could cost millions, but it is a show of confidence at a time when people are trying to talk the country and motor trade into a recession."

The new look reflects the Spanish brand's positioning in the VW group as the affordable sporting marque with the tag 'Auto Emocion'. The colour red – a popular choice for Seat buyers – also predominates.

And just in case anyone missed the sporting point, Hidsons staff set up a Scalextric race track and challenged the 100 guests to a race championship featuring Seat Leon Cupra hot hatches – the headline model for Seat's highly successful racing exploits.

Hidsons brand manager John Davies – a self-confessed Seat 'nut' – said the showroom makeover coincided with the recent launch of the sharply styled Ibiza supermini and he had high expectations of the Cupra performance version, which features a powerful yet economical/low emission turbocharged 1.4-litre engine and F1-style paddleshift gearchange, due in early 2009.

Family-owned Hidsons celebrates 55 years in business next year and employs around 100 people at sites in Medway, Maidstone and Gravesend.

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Official Government Test Environmental Data - Fuel Consumption Figures mpg (litres/100km): Agila Design 1.2 12v 5dr : urban 40.9 (6.9), extra-urban 60.1 (4.7), combined: 51.4 (5.5), CO2 Emissions 131 g/km; Corsa Range: urban 26.9 (10.5) - 49.6 (5.7), extra-urban 44.1 (6.4) - 74.3 (3.8), combined 35.8 (7.9) - 62.8 (4.5), CO2 Emissions 119 - 189 g/km; Astra Range: urban 26.6 (10.6) - 44.8 (6.3), extra-urban 44.8 (6.3) – 68.9 (4.1), combined 35.8 (7.9) - 57.6 (4.9), CO2 Emissions 130 - 189 g/km; Zafira Breeze 1.6i 16v 5dr: urban 30.1 (9.4), extra-urban 47.9 (5.9), combined 39.2 (7.2), CO2 Emissions 172 g/km; Vectra Exclusiv 1.8i 16v VVT: urban 28.0 (10.1), extra-urban 51.4 (5.5), combined 39.2 (7.2), CO2 Emissions 173 g/km.

Models shown may have optional extras available at an extra cost. Insurance subject to eligibility, status, terms and conditions. Offer applies to private individuals, (excl. Driving Schools), Vauxhall Partners and Pack Sales only. All other customers are excluded. No Deposit 0% Finance available on selected Corsa models over 2 years 0% finance. 4 Years 0% Finance available on selected Astra, Astra TwinTop, Tigra, Meriva, Zafira and Vectra models. *Minimum deposit of 30% required. 2 Years 0% Finance available on Agila Design models. Minimum deposit of 50% required. Finance by GMAC UK plc 19 Chapel Street, Luton LU1 2SE, subject to status, terms and conditions. Applicants must be 18 or over. Finance offers apply to private individuals, Vauxhall Partners, and small businesses 1-24 (purchase only). All other sales categories are excluded. A guarantee or indemnity may be required. All sales categories excluded, cannot be used in conjunction with any other offer. All offers are available at participating retailers only and apply to eligible new vehicles ordered or registered between 03.10.08 and 02.12.08, subject to availability. Offers may not apply to allretailer stocks. UK supplied vehicles only.

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GJ58SYA	Fabia 2 1.2 12v 70bhp 5dr Hatch	BLACK MAGIC	£10,225.00	£835.00	£9,390.00	£0.00	£194.97	9.6%
GJ58SYF	Fabia 2 1.2 12v 70bhp 5dr Hatch	DYNAMIC BLUE	£9,830.00	£840.00	£8,990.00	£0.00	£186.79	9.7%
GJ58SYE	Fabia 2 1.4 TDi 80bhp 5dr Hatch	BLACK MAGIC	£11,710.00	£920.00	£10,790.00	£1,250.00	£198.04	9.6%
GJ58SYG	Fabia 2 1.4 TDi 80bhp 5dr Hatch	TANGERINE ORANGE	£12,035.00	£1,045.00	£10,990.00	£1,500.00	£197.02	9.6%
GJ58SYR	Fabia 2 1.9 TDi 105bhp 5dr Hatch	CAPPUCCINO BEIGE	£12,785.00	£995.00	£11,790.00	£2,250.00	£198.04	9.6%
GJ58SYS	Fabia 2 1.9 TDi 105bhp 5dr Hatch	SATIN GREY	£12,785.00	£995.00	£11,790.00	£2,250.00	£198.04	9.6%
GJ58SYP	Fabia 3 1.9 TDi 105bhp 5dr Hatch	BLACK MAGIC	£13,850.00	£1,160.00	£12,690.00	£3,250.00	£195.99	9.6%
GK58NMU	Fabia Greenline 1.4 TDi 80bhp 5dr Hatch	BRILLIANT SILVER	£12,105.00	£1,115.00	£10,990.00	£1,500.00	£197.02	9.6%
GJ58SYO	Octavia Ambiente 1.8 TSi 160bhp 5dr Hatch	DIAMOND SILVER	£15,190.00	£2,200.00	£12,990.00	£3,500.00	£197.02	9.6%

EX-DEMONSTRATION SKODA

REG. NO.	MODEL / ENGINE	COLOUR	COST NEW	SAVING	PRICE TO YOU	DEPOSIT	60 MONTHLY	APR
GJ08YLU	Fabia 2 1.2 12v 70bhp 5dr Hatch	STORM BLUE	£10,570.00	£1,580.00	£8,990.00	£0.00	£186.79	9.7%
KS57EHD	Fabia 2 1.4 TDi 80bhp 5dr Hatch	SATIN GREY	£11,655.00	£2,165.00	£9,490.00	£0.00	£197.02	9.6%
GJ08VBE	Fabia 3 1.4 TDi 80bhp 5dr Hatch	FLAMENCO RED	£12,815.00	£1,825.00	£10,990.00	£1,500.00	£197.02	9.6%
GL08DDY	Fabia 1 1.2 12v 70bhp 5dr Estate	STORM BLUE	£9,890.00	£1,400.00	£8,490.00	£0.00	£176.57	9.7%
GJ08VBF	Fabia 2 1.4 16v 85bhp 5dr Estate	STORM BLUE	£11,800.00	£1,510.00	£10,290.00	£750.00	£198.04	9.6%
GK08ZNM	Fabia 2 1.4 16v 85bhp 5dr Estate	CAPPUCCINO BEIGE	£11,450.00	£1,160.00	£10,290.00	£750.00	£198.04	9.6%
GJ08VBK	Roomster 2 1.6 16v 105bhp MPV	OLIVE GREEN	£12,375.00	£2,585.00	£9,790.00	£250.00	£198.04	9.6%
GJ08VBG	Roomster 2 1.4 TDi 80bhp 5dr MPV	FLAMENCO RED	£12,965.00	£2,675.00	£10,290.00	£750.00	£198.04	9.6%
GJ08YLR	Roomster Scout 1.9 TDi 105bhp 5dr MPV	POLAR BLUE	£15,390.00	£3,100.00	£12,290.00	£2,750.00	£198.04	9.6%
KS57EEA	Octavia Ambiente 1.9 TDi 105bhp 5dr Hatch	BRILLIANT SILVER	£15,150.00	£3,160.00	£11,990.00	£2,500.00	£197.02	9.6%
GJ08VAU	Octavia Ambiente 1.9 TDi 105bhp 5dr Hatch	SATIN GREY	£15,300.00	£2,310.00	£12,990.00	£3,500.00	£197.02	9.6%
GL57YKV	Octavia Elegance 1.9 TDi 105bhp 5dr Hatch	SATIN GREY	£16,170.00	£2,180.00	£13,990.00	£4,500.00	£197.02	9.6%
GK08ZNX	Octavia L&K 2.0 TDi 140bhp 5dr Hatch	BLACK MAGIC	£20,070.00	£2,580.00	£17,490.00	£5,500.00	£248.14	9.4%
GJ08VAV	Octavia Ambiente 2.0 TDi DSG 140bhp 5dr Estate	STORM BLUE	£17,135.00	£2,445.00	£14,690.00	£2,750.00	£247.12	9.4%
GL08XRC	Octavia L&K 2.0 FSi AUTO 150bhp 5dr Estate	ISLAND GREEN	£20,595.00	£2,605.00	£17,990.00	£6,000.00	£248.14	9.4%
GK08ZNY	Octavia L&K 2.0 TDi 140bhp 5dr Estate	STORM BLUE	£21,125.00	£2,835.00	£18,290.00	£6,250.00	£249.16	9.4%
GJ08YLX	Octavia L&K 2.0 TDi DSG 140bhp 5dr Estate	BRILLIANT SILVER	£22,470.00	£2,980.00	£19,490.00	£7,500.00	£248.14	9.4%
KV57BVX	Superb Elegance 2.0 TDi 140bhp Saloon	BLACK MAGIC	£20,690.00	£5,200.00	£15,490.00	£3,500.00	£248.14	9.6%

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REG. NO.	MODEL / ENGINE	COLOUR	WAS	SAVING	PRICE TO YOU	DEPOSIT	60 MONTHLY	APR
GL07TTY	Octavia Ambiente 1.9 TDi 105bhp 5dr Hatch	CORRIDA RED	£11,990.00	£1,500.00	£10,490.00	£1,000.00	£197.02	9.6%
GL07CFV	Octavia Ambiente 1.9 TDi 105bhp 5dr Hatch	BLACK MAGIC	£11,990.00	£1,500.00	£10,490.00	£1,000.00	£197.02	9.6%
GL07CFJ	Octavia Ambiente 1.9 TDi DSG 105bhp 5dr Hatch	CAPPUCCINO BEIGE	£12,290.00	£1,500.00	£10,790.00	£1,250.00	£198.04	9.6%

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DrivingReview



by **STEVE LOADER**

CHIEF DRIVING CORRESPONDENT
steve.loader@kosmedia.co.uk

Fiat Grande Punto Abarth



NOT so long ago, Fiat was a 'dead man walking'.

Weighed down by financial woes, a faltering model line-up and a poor customer service record, it was then jilted by General Motors in 2005 after the US car giant broke an 'engagement' to acquire the Fiat group's car-making arm.

However, rejection seemed to spark revival under the then newly installed CEO Sergio Marchionne, beginning with the excellent Grande Punto supermini, the Ford Focus-class Bravo and cult status 500 city car.

The downsizing trend has helped too – small cars have always been the Italian brand's forte. Marchionne is credited with downsizing within the company too; a flabby corporate structure and dealer network has been slimmed and re-modelled and rising UK sales show the regime is working here.

So, the dead man walking defied the doctors and now wants to show how fast he can run – in the form of the Abarth brand.

This once proud name and badge – see our history box – had been devalued until Fiat management said 'Finito'; Abarth is a stand-alone performance brand again with its own pared-back specialist dealership network, albeit within the overall Fiat map.

One of this elite few is Lipscomb at Aylesford, Maidstone, which only took on Fiat itself two years ago.

Sales manager Paul Harris makes no attempt

Abarth History

- 1949 – marque founded by Italian-Austrian Karl (Carlo) Abarth in Turin.
- 1960s Abarth makes a name in hill climbs and sports car racing against notable opponents such as the Porsche 904 and Ferrari Dino.
- By then also producing high-performance exhausts and tuning kits and is linked with Porsche and Simca, but a reputation for tuned Fiats drove the two Turin-based companies closer, leading to...
- 1971 – Fiat buying and installing Abarth as its racing and rally department.
- 1980/90s – decline as the Abarth becomes a 'GTI' and sporting trim for cars like the unloved Fiat Stilo Abarth.
- 2008 – re-launched as a stand alone sporting brand via a smaller and carefully selected dealer network.

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*Saving shown is against Vauxhall list price at time of publication. On the road prices include customer savings, number plates, delivery. Vehicle Excise Duty and a first registration fee. Models shown are for illustration purposes only. Offers are available for orders placed between 03.10.08 and 02.12.08, subject to availability, and are available to small businesses 1-24 units only (purchase only). All other sales categories are excluded. Offers may not apply to all retailer stocks. UK-supplied vehicles only. All prices exclude VAT at 17.5%.









to disguise the fact that the arrival of the Abarth 500 early next year is the 'big one' – "We've got 22 firm orders with deposits," he tells me.

By comparison, he has sold just eight Abarth Grande Puntos since Lipscomb Abarth opened for business in late August, but the 500 shape is hot property at the moment – even Ferrari uses a special edition as dealership courtesy cars.

That said, Harris reckons a couple of Grande Punto sales came off the back of people coming in to order a 500, seeing and driving its bigger brother and changing their plans.

And you can see why. The Abarth is a hoot, great value and facing few rivals.

Mainstream Fiat offers the turbocharged 120bhp 1.4-litre Sporting as its performance flagship from £12,425, but little more than a £1,000 buys the same capacity Abarth with 155bhp (0-62mph in 8.2 seconds) on tap, bodykit, upgraded brakes and chassis as well as the charismatic Scorpion badge and a stunning set of smoked alloys.

What you get is 2.0-litre power from a more environmentally/tax- friendly engine that revs well and is mated to a tidy six-speed change; it is a satisfying hot hatchback to drive hard or simply toddle around in.

The engine has a keen sporty note to it, but it is never intrusive in traffic and while the car is sure-footed when pushed, there is no price asked in the comfort department.

Mind you, you can go for a full-fat version if you talk to Lipscomb – the 180bhp Esseesse upgrade comprises engine, brakes and chassis tune plus an even meaner set of 18-inch alloys to create what could be the daddy of hot superminis.

Personally, I could settle for 'junior' – a stunning way to re-launch a legend.

DrivingStats

- Abarth Grande Punto 155 £13,500
- Garage stats: 4.04m by 1.72m three-door supermini
- Powertrain: 1,368cc/155bhp four-cylinder petrol engine driving front wheels through a six-speed manual gearbox
- Performance: top speed 129mph and 0-62mph in 8.2 seconds
- How green?: CO2 emissions/162g per km - road tax band-D (£145/yr)
- Official fuel figures: combined 40.9mpg
- Fuel tank: 45 litres/9.9 gallons
- Euro NCAP safety rating (0-5 stars): *****
- Insurance group: 13
- Warranty: three years/60,000 miles
- Website: www.fiat.co.uk
- Others to consider: MINI Cooper, Mitsubishi CZT, Nissan Micra 160SR, Peugeot 207 GT and GTi, Renault Clio Renaultsport, Suzuki Swift Sport, Vauxhall Corsa SRi and VXR and VW Polo GTI.

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FINAL OPTIONAL RENTAL	£3,536.00

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AUDI

A2, SE 5dr, gk02 oec, remote central locking, remote alarm, rear wash/wipe, rear headrests, cloth upholstery, electric front windows, electric mirrors, adjustable steering column, height adjustable seat, traction control, air conditioning, climate control, cd player, radio, twin air bags, abs, power steering, alloy wheels, blue, 58000 miles, £4995, Kings Highway Garage Ltd, Plumstead, 020 8855 4000 (TRADE)

A3, TDi Sport 5dr, af55tka, immobiliser, remote central locking, cloth upholstery, colour coded interior, height adjustable seat, folding rear seats, rear headrests, adjustable steering column, power steering, traction control, abs, child locks, multiple airbags, colour coded body, metallic paintwork, rear spoiler, automatic electric windows, electric mirrors, climate control, radio, cd player, front fog lamps, stability control, trip computer, alloys, silver, 65000 miles, £9990, AR Cars, Kent, 01342 851122 (TRADE)

A4, 1.9tdi 130 se estate, 2003, blue m with grey cloth, 67000 miles, £8950, Martin James Cars, Kent, 01795426700 (TRADE)

A6, SE 4dr 2.4 Man, gj51nzf, remote central locking, cloth upholstery, head restraints, power steering, air bag, abs, colour coded body, metallic paintwork, electric windows, air conditioning, cd player, radio, electric mirrors, 15'' alloys, green, 130000 miles, £3999, Marshams, Maidstone, 01622 200 100 (TRADE)

TT, 1.8 2DR, 2002, trim: leather engine size: 1800 transmission: manual no. of doors: 2, green, 14000 miles, £14995, Palm Bay, Margate, 01843 298554 (TRADE)

VOLKSWAGEN GOLF 1.9 TDI



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ARNAGE, red label auto, 2001, blenheim silver with black leather, 50000 miles, £44950, Martin James Cars, Kent, 01795426700 (TRADE)

CONTINENTAL, yj05wwb, remote alarm, remote central locking, tracker fitted, full leather, heated seats, rear armrest, rear headrests, colour satnav, cruise control, multi-function steering wheel, parking sensor, power steering, traction control, abs, multiple airbags, auto lighting, colour coded body, front fog lamps, headlamp jetwash, metallic paintwork, rain-sensing wipers, xenon headlamps, electric mirrors, electric windows, powered folding mirrors, air conditioning, climate control, dvd player, cd player, multi-disc cd player, television, 19'' alloys, 4x4, portland leather trim with nautic blue leather dash and door inserts vat qualifying, always over 60 mercedes-benz cars in stock! we will not be beaten on price! fully fsA regulated, moonbeam silver metallic, 29000 miles, £54995, DW Leisure Mercedes Benz Specialist, Welling, 0208 8548037 (TRADE)

CADILLAC

CTS, cts 3.6 sport luxury v6, 2005, light platinum with black leather, 22379 miles, £12950, Martin James Cars, Kent, 01795426700 (TRADE)

CHEVROLET

CAPTIVA, LTX 2.0, gk08orw, finished in denim blue with black interior, blue, 4000 miles, £22995, Caffyns Chevrolet T Wells, Tunbridge Wells, 01892 515700 (TRADE)

KALOS, SX 5dr, du06wcf, central locking, immobiliser, remote central locking, cloth upholstery, head restraints, height adjustable seat, folding rear seats, rear headrests, rear wash/wipe, metallic paintwork, colour coded body, multiple airbags, abs, power steering, electric front windows, electric mirrors, air conditioning, cd player, trip computer, radio, anti-theft system, remote alarm, twin air bags, child locks, adjustable steering column, stereo, alloy wheels, black, 8000 miles, £6995, Automatically Ray Morris (Bexleyheath), Bexleyheath, 01322 524 680 (TRADE)

LACETTI, SX 5dr, gk56zlz, folding rear seats, height adjustable seat, head restraints, anti-theft system, immobiliser, remote central locking, cloth upholstery, power steering, air bag, multiple airbags, metallic paintwork, rear wash/wipe, cd player, air conditioning, electric front windows, twin air bags, child locks, abs, adjustable steering column, electric mirrors, radio, stereo, aluminium silver, 9000 miles, £5995, Automatically Ray Morris (Welling), Welling, 0208 303 4030 (TRADE)

TACUMA, SX 1.6, gf56kcu, finished in blue with black cloth interior, blue, 3000 miles, £6995, Caffyns Chevrolet T Wells, Tunbridge Wells, 01892 515700 (TRADE)

CHRYSLER

300C, 5.7v8 auto estate, 2007, brilliant crystal met with dark and light slate gr, 10577 miles, £18950, Martin James Cars, Kent, 01795426700 (TRADE)

NEON, 2.0 LXI, 1995 automatic, 5 door saloon, metallic green with contrasting grey velour trim, low mileage, service history, new mot, ew x 4, em, pas, air bags, original hi-fi, only 1 owner from new. a snip at now £995, low mileage miles, £only £995, Riviera Car Sales, Folkestone, 01303 244244 (TRADE)

PT CRUISER, ej05 yrn, rear wash/wipe, rear headrests, remote central locking, remote alarm, abs, power steering, traction control, cloth upholstery, electric windows, electric mirrors, height adjustable seat, adjustable steering column, cd player, radio, air conditioning, electric front windows, twin air bags, blue, 24000 miles, £4995, Kings Highway Garage Ltd, Plumstead, 020 8855 4000 (TRADE)

FIAT

FIAT DUCATO, 14 2.8 jtd, 02 2002, 14 seats minibus rohill tri axle 40.000 miles sold with rac warranty taillift air suspension ex council ideal camper conversion, £6995, Beaver Commercials, Ashford, 01233 634763 (TRADE)

FIAT SCUDO EL, 05 2000, 2.0 jtd 3 seats twin doors white 119.000 no vat, 0 miles, £2495, Beaver Commercials, 01233 634763 (TRADE)

BRAVO 100 SX, 2001 "y", a medium sized car with a 1.6 engine. pas c/lock s/hist very reasonly priced. a 3 month warrenty is offerd on the screen price and we will take your old car in part exchange. a new mot test will be included. blue, 75, 000 miles, £1495, Courtenay Cars, Charing, Ashford, 01233 714848 (TRADE)

CINQUECENTO, m/1994, manual locking manual windows, red, 74, 000 miles, £was £1195 now £695, Cheriton Motor House, Folkestone, 01303 275795 (TRADE)

COUPE, 2.0 16v, 1995, red, 72451 miles, £1995, County Car Sales, Dover, 01304 242324 (TRADE)

DOBLO, 1.2 Dynamic 8v, ex05mxc, immobiliser, remote central locking, cloth upholstery, colour coded interior, centre armrest, height adjustable seat, adjustable steering column, power steering, abs, child locks, twin air bags, colour coded body, rear wash/wipe, electric front windows, air conditioning, cd player, alloy wheels, blue, 28000 miles, £4990, AR Cars, Kent, 01342 851122 (TRADE)

DUCATO, 30 2.2 100bhp Multijet, lc57ujt, remote central locking, cloth upholstery, ply-lined, side load door, barn doors, low floor, dual passenger seat, adjustable steering column, power steering, abs, air bag, cd player, electric mirrors, electric windows, white, 19000 miles, £7000, Clearways Commercials, Sevenoaks, 01474 853034 (TRADE)

GRANDE PUNTO, ak07xff, abs, air bag, twin air bags, electric front windows, cd player, rear wash/wipe, electric mirrors, oceanic blue met, 8235 miles, £5499, AutoPlanet Maidstone, Maidstone, 0845 871 5185 (TRADE)

MULTIPLA, Jtd 110 ELX, eu02luh, immobiliser, remote central locking, cloth upholstery, colour coded interior, height adjustable seat, lumbar support, head restraints, folding rear seats, rear headrests, adjustable steering column, parking sensor, power steering, abs, twin air bags, metallic paintwork, rear wash/wipe, front fog lamps, electric mirrors, electric windows, climate control, cd player, radio, sunroof, alloy wheels, metallic red, 68000 miles, £3990, AR Cars, Kent, 01342 851122 (TRADE)

PUNTO, CHILL, gl54ogn, anti-lock brakes, central locking, drivers airbag, electric windows, metallic paint, passenger airbag, power steering, split/folding rear seats, trip computer, blue, 21500 miles, £4495, Thames Group Tunbridge Wells, 01892 549766 (TRADE)

SCUDO, Comfort 90bhp Multijet, ld57zgc, remote central locking, cloth upholstery, bulkhead, twin sliding doors, barn doors, dual passenger seat, adjustable steering column, power steering, abs, air bag, colour coded body, front fog lamps, metallic paintwork, electric mirrors, electric windows, cd player, silver, 16000 miles, £7495, Clearways Commercials, 01474 853034 (TRADE)

SEDICI, 1.6 16v Eleganza, hy06xcn, 16in alloy wheels, anti-lock brakes, body coloured bumpers, centre rear seat belt, climate control, cloth interior, driver, passenger and side air bags, eight speakers, electric/heated door mirrors, electronic brake force distribution, front fog lights, front/rear electric windows, immobiliser, power-assisted steering, radio/cd, remote central door locking, roof rails, spacesaver spare wheel, steering wheel leather, two seats rear seat isofix anchorage point, beige metallic, 9930 miles, £7495, Thames Group Tunbridge Wells, 01892 549766 (TRADE)

HONDA

ACCORD, 2.2 i-CTDi Sport with HFT, gd07aoe, body colour bumpers, cruise control, high level rear brake light, front electric windows, honda superlocks (deadlocks), chrome door handles, dual curtain srs airbags front and rear, 5 x 3 point seat belts, height adjustable front seat belts, adjustable dashboard illumination, dual front srs airbags, fuel filler release, lockable underfloor storage, power tailgate (remote operated), tilt and telescopic steering wheel adjustment, front foglights, body colour door mirrors, isofix childseat restraint mechanism, heat absorbing tinted windows, locking wheel nuts, rolling code ecu engine immobiliser, central locking, rear electric windows, rear cupholders, alabaster silver metallic, 5980 miles, £17995.0000, Barretts Honda, 0845 3709769 (TRADE)

CIVIC, 1.8 i-Vtec Es 5dr, 1486649, electric sunroof, honda civic 1.8 i-vtec es 5dr £14, 988.00, registration gj08hws sale price £14, 988.00, registered 2008 mileage 2543 miles, transmission manual body style hatchback, fuel type petrol exterior blue, number of doors 5 interior, previous owners 1 interior trim, drake and fletcher provide a variety of warranty options. our sales teams will be happy to explain the options to you. blue, £14988, Drake and Fletcher Honda, Tunbridge Wells, 0845 130 4298 (TRADE)

HR-V, VTEC 3dr, remote central locking, remote alarm, rear spoiler, electric front windows, electric mirrors, adjustable steering column, cd player, radio, air conditioning, twin air bags, abs, power steering, cloth upholstery, alloys, 4x4, green/blue, 44400 miles, £3695, Kings Highway Garage Ltd, 020 8855 4000 (TRADE)

JAZZ, 1.4 i-DSI SE, gf05wvt, luggage tie down rings, front seat belt pre-tensioners, externally visible vehicle identification number (vin), front cupholders, front ventilated disc brakes, passenger seatback pocket, audible headlight on reminder, tachometer (rev counter), manual air conditioning, dashboard illumination white, front head restraints, high security integrated audio, mirror integrated indicators, remote audio controls, driver's seat height adjustment, electric adjustable and heated door mirrors, low fuel warning light, emergency brake assist, digital fuel consumption display, digital odometer (trip), fixed speed rear windscreen wiper, rear outer head restraints, glovebox, vivid blue pearl, 22998 miles, £8495.0000, Barretts Honda, 0845 3709769 (TRADE)

LEGEND, 3.5i VTEC V6 EX with ADAS and CMBS Sequential Shift, gf57lto, power door unlock (crash sensor), blue ambient footwell lighting, active front lighting system (afs), oil level sensor, driver/passenger seat lumbar support, front map lights, externally visible vehicle identification number (vin), multi-function driver computer, front ventilated disc brakes, parcel shelf speakers, passenger seatback pocket, vehicle stability assist (vsa), interior & perimeter alarm (cat1), rear seat boot access, rear side sunshade, electric adjustable and heated door mirrors, low fuel warning light, driver's foot rest, emergency brake assist, illuminated ignition switch, drive by wire (dbw), tweeters, opulent blue pearl, 750 miles, £28995.0000, Barretts Honda, 0845 3709769 (TRADE)

S2000, 2.0i VTEC Roadster, rf07oco, rolling code ecu engine immobiliser, central locking, leather upholstery, remote keyless entry, stereo cd tuner with rds, tweeters, body colour door mirrors, front speakers, rear disc brakes, headlight washers, thatcham category 1 alarm system, embossed kickplates, front ventilated disc brakes, soft top roof with glass heated rear screen, electric adjustable and heated door mirrors, automatic headlight height, digital odometer (trip), drive by wire (dbw), body colour bumpers, high level rear brake light, front electric windows, starter button, pollen filter, roll-over protection, chrome door handles, boot release in locking centre console, dual front srs airbags, remote stereo controls, silverstone metallic, 1650 miles, £19995.0000, Barretts Honda, Canterbury, 0845 3709769 (TRADE)

STREAM, 2.0i SE Sport, gn02ovt, passenger airbag, alarm, rake/reach adjustable steering column/wheel, driver's seat height adjustment, six speakers, electric sunroof, seven seats seating capacity, driver airbag, front/rear head restraints, remote central door locking, centre rear seat belt, full size spare wheel, radio/cassette, front/rear electric windows, electric/heated mirrors external, front/rear armrest, eternal blue pearl, 66549 miles, £6495, Barretts Honda, 0845 3709769 (TRADE)

HYUNDAI

ACCENT, CDX 5dr, central locking, immobiliser, remote central locking, cloth upholstery, head restraints, height adjustable seat, folding rear seats, rear wash/wipe, metallic paintwork, colour coded body, multiple airbags, abs, power steering, electric windows, parking sensor, air conditioning, cd player, alloys, aluminium silver, 12000 miles, £5495, Automatically Ray Morris (Bexleyheath), 01322 524 680 (TRADE)

AMICA, CDX 5dr, central locking, immobiliser, remote central locking, cloth upholstery, rear headrests, folding rear seats, head restraints, parking sensor, abs, multiple airbags, metallic paintwork, rear wash/wipe, electric front windows, air conditioning, blue, 2000 miles, £6495, Automatically Ray Morris (Welling), 0208 303 4030 (TRADE)

COUPE, 2.0 Siii 3dr, 1307649, hyundai coupe 2.0 siii 3dr £13, 495.00, registration gl57hte sale price £13, 495.00, registered 2008 mileage 3000 miles, transmission manual body style coupe, fuel type petrol exterior silver, number of doors 3 interior black, previous owners 1 interior trim leather, there are a variety of warranty options which our sales team will be happy to explain to you. demonstrator, car now reduced to £13495, silver, £13495, Drake and Fletcher Honda, Tunbridge Wells, 0845 130 4298 (TRADE)

GETZ, 1.3 Gsi 3dr, 1329649, hyundai getz 1.3 gsi 3dr £4, 300.00, registration gj05omw sale price £4, 300.00, registered 2005 mileage 21371 miles, transmission manual body style hatchback, fuel type petrol exterior black, number of doors 3 interior grey, previous owners 1 interior trim cloth, there are a variety of warranty options which our sales team will be happy to explain to you. car now reduced to £4300, black, £4300, Drake and Fletcher Honda, Tunbridge Wells, 0845 130 4298 (TRADE)

I30, 1.6 Syle Estate Auto, 3000 miles, transmission automatic body style estate, fuel type petrol exterior stone black mica, number of doors 5 interior black, previous owners 1 interior trim cloth, there are a variety of warranty options which our sales team will be happy to explain to you. demonstrator, car now reduced to £12495, black, £12495, Drake and Fletcher Honda, Tunbridge Wells, 0845 130 4298 (TRADE)

MATRIX, 1.5 Td Gsi 5dr, 1304649, metallic paintwork, hyundai matrix 1.5 td gsi 5dr £8, 495.00, registration gj08khm sale price £8, 495.00, registered 2008 mileage 3000 miles, transmission manual body style estate, fuel type diesel exterior wine red met, number of doors 5 interior grey, previous owners 1 interior trim cloth, there are a variety of warranty options which our sales team will be happy to explain to you. demonstrator, car now reduced to £8495, red, £8495, Drake and Fletcher Honda, Tunbridge Wells, 0845 130 4298 (TRADE)

TUCSON, 2.0 Crtd Cdx 5dr, 1300649, hyundai tucson 2.0 crtd cdx 5dr £8, 495.00, registration kv55lbn sale price £8, 495.00, registered 2005 mileage 20825 miles, transmission manual body style estate, fuel type diesel exterior silver, number of doors 5 interior grey, previous owners 1 interior trim leather, there are a variety of warranty options which our sales team will be happy to explain to you. car now reduced to £8495, silver, £8495, Drake and Fletcher Honda, Tunbridge Wells, 0845 130 4298 (TRADE)

ISUZU

TROOPER, CITATION 3.5 V6 LWB, 1999 (t), 5 door, stunning met green coachwork with contrasting velour trim, service history, new mot, full electric pack, remote central locking, alarm, air con, electric windows 4, electric & folding mirrors, twin air bags, 2 & 4 wheel drive, alloys, cd hi-fi, tow bar and twin electric pack, + much more, 93000 miles, £3995, Riviera Car Sales, Folkestone, 01303 244244 (TRADE)

JAGUAR

S TYPE 3.0, 2003 (03), 03 (53) jaguar s-type v6 3.0 se auto, metallic silver coachwork with grey leather trim, only 42000 miles, full service history, usual jaguar refinements to include: power and memory seats, memory steering wheel position, air con/climate control, electric windows, electric & folding mirrors, cd multiplayer with hi-fi pack, multiple air bags, electronic park brake, on board computer, cruise control, traction control, tinted glass, alloys etc, etc. only £9, 995, metallic silver, £9995, Riviera Car Sales, Folkestone, 01303 244244 (TRADE)

X-TYPE, 2.0d S 5dr, abs, air bag, twin air bags, side air bags, alarm, traction control, climate control, electric front windows, electric windows, r electric mirrors, front fog lamps, immobiliser, central locking, remote central locking, half leather, centre armrest, electric seats, head restraints, height adjustable seat, retractable headrests, rear headrests, multi-function steering wheel, power steering, quick-clear screen, roof rails, automatic electric windows, air conditioning, cd player, stereo, steering wheel audio controls, radio, 17'' alloys, zircon, 19738 miles, £11499, AutoPlanet Maidstone, 0845 871 5185 (TRADE)

XK, XK8 4.2 V8, foldback electric mirrors, headlamp power wash, heated front screen, heated front seats, auto-dimming mirrors, memory function, rain sensitive wipers, reverse park control, 19'' alloys, alpine audio system, anti-lock braking system (abs), arts, automatic climate control, automatic headlights, cd autochanger, central locking, cruise control, drivers airbag, dynamic stability control, electric front windows, electric heated door mirrors, electric seats, electric steering column, electrochromic mirror, heated rear window, high mounted stop lamp, immobiliser, leather steering wheel, front fog lamps, headlamp levelling, seatbelt pretensioners, security system, side airbags, rear spoiler, pacific blue, 19800 miles, £27995.0000, Barretts Jaguar (Ashford), 0845 3709765 (TRADE)

JEEP

GRAND CHEROKEE, 1997, green, 180000 miles, £2995, County Car Sales, Dover, 01304 242324 (TRADE)

KIA

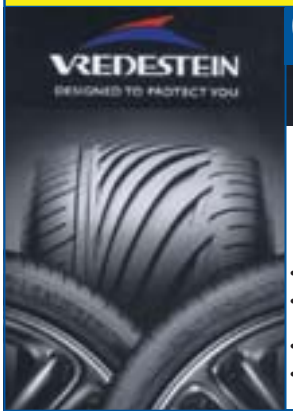
CARENS, 2.0 CRDI GS 5dr, gl07jwp, air-conditioning, abs + ebd, air, cd player. insurance group:10, red, 17900 miles, £9994, SMC Mitsubishi Sittingbourne, Sittingbourne, 01795 429802 (TRADE)

MAGENTIS, Le, metallic paintwork, 25987 miles, transmission manual body style saloon, fuel type petrol exterior metallic blue, number of doors 4 interior, previous owners 2 interior trim, blue, £3795, Drake and Fletcher Honda, Tunbridge Wells, 0845 130 4298 (TRADE)

PICANTO, 1.1 3 5dr, 1381649, immobiliser, alarm, central locking, power steering, air con, electric windows, cd player, rear wash/wipe, front fog lamps, alloys, 150 miles, transmission manual body style hatchback, fuel type petrol exterior black, number of doors 5 interior, previous owners 1 interior trim, anti-lock brakes (abs), air conditioning, alarm, alloy wheels, cd player, central locking, electric windows, engine immobiliser, power steering, rear wash/wipe, warranty, front fog lamps, fog lamps, power steering, black, £7495, Drake and Fletcher Honda, 0845 130 4298 (TRADE)

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RIO, 1.4 2 5dr, 1380649, central locking, air con, cd, alloys, kia rio 1.4 2 5dr £7, 495.00, 150 miles, transmission manual body style hatchback, fuel type petrol exterior silver, number of doors 5 interior, previous owners 1 interior trim, air conditioning, alloy wheels, cd player, central locking, electric windows, silver, £7495, Drake and Fletcher Honda, Tunbridge Wells, 0845 130 4298 (TRADE)

SEDONA, 2.9 Crdi Ls 5dr Auto, abs, power steering, air con, climate control, electric windows, lumbar support, kia sedona 2.9 crdi ls 5dr auto mileage 10759 miles, body style estate, fuel type diesel exterior black, number of doors 5 interior, previous owners 1 interior trim, abs, climate control, pas, 16, height adjustable driver's seat, electric windows with drivers 'one touch' open, rear air con with separate controls, black, £12795, Drake and Fletcher Honda, 0845 130 4298 (TRADE)

LEXUS

GS300, GS 300 SE, 503461, remote alarm, central locking, full leather, electric seats, air bag, abs, power steering, colour coded body, metallic paintwork, cd player, climate control, electric windows, electric mirrors, 15'' alloys, blue, 130000 miles, £2999, Marshams, Maidstone, 01622 200 100 (TRADE)

IS, 200 SE, gf51wrr, alarm, immobiliser, remote central locking, alcantara leather, half leather, electric seats, heated seats, height adjustable seat, adjustable steering column, power steering, stability control, abs, multiple airbags, auto lighting, colour coded body, front fog lamps, electric mirrors, electric windows, climate control, multi-disc cd player, electric sunroof, child locks, alloy wheels, red, 52000 miles, £5990, AR Cars, Kent, 01342 851122 (TRADE)

MINI

MINI, Cooper S, 06, perfect condition, low mileage, 1 lady owner from new, garaged, low milage, great car, pepper white / black roof, 9200 miles, £1322500, Canterbury, 07730 666223 (PRIVATE)

COOPER, S 1.6, 214637, finished in red with interior, red, 60000 miles, £7490, Caffyns Tunbridge Wells Vauxhall, Tunbridge Wells, 01892 515700 (TRADE)

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ALMERA TINO, 05, fsh, abs, esp, air con, alloys, sat nav, audio remote control, reversing camera, drive/fuel computer, sun roof, tow bar (unused) mot to march 09, tax to august 09, silver, 31000 miles, £4800, deal, 01304617476 (PRIVATE)

PRIMERA, S 5dr, 6525079, front fog lamps, remote central locking, remote alarm, electric front windows, electric mirrors, cloth upholstery, height adjustable seat, adjustable steering column, air conditioning, climate control, radio cassette, twin air bags, abs, power steering, silver, 73300 miles, £2495, Kings Highway Garage Ltd, Plumstead, 020 8855 4000 (TRADE)

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911, 3.6 Carrera 2 Tiptronic S Coupe 2d 3596cc auto (2002), 07, 19" turbo alloys, sat nav, phone module, rear parktronic, sports chrono pack, sports seats, sports suspension, sports exhaust, vts tracking system, rear wiper, premium carpet mats, climate, bose, cd, fsh, please view our website to see our full stock, basalt black with black leather, only 3, 000 miles, £65000, Vikings Canterbury, Canterbury, 01227 711112 (TRADE

BOXSTER, 24v, 848182, anti-theft system, central locking, immobiliser, full leather, xenon headlamps, metallic paintwork, abs, brake assist, adjustable steering column, colour satnav, cruise control, multi-function steering wheel, satellite navigation, traction control, stability control, powered folding mirrors, power hood, electric mirrors, climate control, 17'' alloys, aluminium silver, 22000 miles, £19000, Clearways Commercials, Sevenoaks, 01474 853034 (TRADE)

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9-3, Linear TID 1.9, oct 2004, 2 keepers, power steering, remote central locking, air con, electric windows, 6 speed gearbox, full service history, radio/cd player, twin & side airbags, abs brakes, engine immobiliser, car alarm, on-board computer, tinted glass, alloys. silver metallic, 32, 000 miles, £9, 495, Hollis Motors, 01304 206710 (TRADE)

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ALTO, 1.1 GL Hatchback 5dr, 54/2005, pas central locking electric windows, bright red, 15, 000 miles, £3895, Cheriton Motor House, Folkestone, 01303 275795 (TRADE)

GRAND VITARA, 2000, blue, 36000 miles, £3995, County Car Sales, Dover, 01304 242324 (TRADE)

IGNIS, GL VVT-S 5dr, bt07vzc, anti-theft system, central locking, immobiliser, remote central locking, cloth upholstery, height adjustable seat, retractable headrests, rear headrests, folding rear seats, rear wash/wipe, air bag, abs, adjustable steering column, power steering, electric front windows, electric mirrors, 15'' alloys, blue, 1000 miles, £6995, Automatically Ray Morris (Welling), 0208 303 4030 (TRADE)

JIMNY, JLX, ea55xdy, central locking, immobiliser, cloth upholstery, folding rear seats, roof rails, rear wash/wipe, metallic paintwork, colour coded body, air bag, abs, power steering, electric front windows, air conditioning, cd player, alloy wheels, 4x4, gold, 2000 miles, £5995, Automatically Ray Morris (Welling), Welling, 0208 303 4030 (TRADE)

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AYGO, VVT-I 1., gr07fpa, finished in red with interior, red, 22000 miles, £5995, Caffyns Tunbridge Wells Vauxhall, Tunbridge Wells, 01892 515700 (TRADE)

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Carter's case for the defence

By **TONY PATEY**
tony.patey@kosmedia.co.uk

COUNTY council leader Cllr Paul Carter says Kent is facing the economic downturn four-square and making sure its stays open for business – and he defended the council's investments with Icelandic banks.

The council has £50 million frozen in the failed Icelandic banking system, but speaking at a breakfast conference of 200 business and development delegates, Cllr Carter said everything will be done to recover the cash.

KCC has £500m of investments and it had to get as much return as possible, he said.

"We were asked why the money wasn't in Government bonds or Treasury bonds. If you have that amount – £500m – on deposit you are not going to take three-and-a-half or four per cent interest on Government bonds when with good management you can get seven or eight per cent return, and we've been doing that over the last four or five years.

"It has been strategic investment in appropriate banks globally with an increase of four or five per cent on the return, which is about £15m or £16m of additional interest every year to the benefit of taxpayers in Kent. Our track record has been excellent."

He said accountants Ernst and Young had published a report on UK-based Icelandic Heritable Bank, in which KCC has £18.35m on deposit, and its assets almost exactly meet liabilities.

"So we are hoping money will come back fairly soon and we will do all we can, working with the Treasury and the Local Government Association, to make sure we get as near to a full recovery as possible."

Cllr Carter was speaking at Brands Hatch MotorSport Vision Centre at the annual launch of the Kent Property Market Report, written by KCC and property experts Cluttons, produced by investment promotion agency Locate in Kent and supported by local law firm Cripps Harries Hall and the Royal Institution of Chartered Surveyors.

He said KCC had taken a "brave decision" to set up a kind of impromptu property enterprise fund "to maintain virtually in its entirety a very ambitious capital programme for the next two to three years, when hopefully we'll be in better times".

Cllr Carter added: "I think money will be in short supply and we will go back to old fashioned banking, which will be much slower and far less exciting. Economic recovery will take longer, so the whole business for the next five years is going to be much slower.

"But we have the pressures of Government imposing minimum housing standards and a massive pent-up demand in the South East. Affordability is going to be a massive issue."

Bankers, he said, are fairweather friends. "Looking back over 20 years or so and some of the recessions we've been through, how many good businesses went to the wall because banks panicked?"

He concluded: "I'm an optimist by nature. We've all been through recessions before, the sun does eventually shine again and out of every recession there are plenty of millionaires and billionaires built.

"It's about timing and marketing. What we have to do is be optimistic and keep the county open for business and make sure that we market and highlight our unique selling points that are massive in a whole range of areas in the Kent economy."



OPTIMISTIC: KCC leader Cllr Paul Carter

Spa town is granted help

GREAT news for Tunbridge Wells firms – the borough council is now able to help them apply for a business development grant under a national scheme.

The Selective Finance for Investment in England (SFIE) 2007-13 aims to help businesses invest in equipment and technology to expand, modernise, or change to become more productive and sustainable and secure skilled employment.

The amount for which a business is eligible depends on its size and location, the project cost, the number of jobs created or safeguarded and job skill levels. Businesses must also serve, or plan to serve, more than just the local market. The council will work with Locate in Kent to help businesses apply for a grant through the scheme, which will be carried out by the South East England Development Agency.

SFIE is a Department for Business, Enterprise and Regulatory Reform national grant scheme. All grants are discretionary and projects are selected on an individual basis.

Contact Daryl Jones at the borough council on 01892 554128, or daryl.jones@tunbridgewells.gov.uk, for full details.

Start empire-building now

NOW'S the time to start a business. Yes, you read that correctly. A severe economic crisis provides one of the best times to set out on your own, according to business consultancy chief Jonathan Jay.

OK, he's an optimist, but many big business names started in hard times. For example, Charles Forte set up a sandwich and milk bar in Fleet Street in the 1930s and ended up with a hotel and catering empire.

To prove his point, Mr Jay, who founded consultancy SuccessTrack, is inviting nearly 500 aspiring entrepreneurs to a free Start-Up Now! seminar. It's on November 23 in London, and applications for places will be considered at www.startupnowuk.com from Monday. Multi-millionaire Mr Jay says that with the right attitude and approach, the fleet-of-foot will thrive despite the gloom.

He says now is a good time to start a business because the nervous will be getting out of your way, the jobs market will be flooded with talented people made redundant by struggling firms and rents are lower.

So while everyone else is moaning, you have the opportunity to build your own empire.

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Directors in the final countdown

THREE Kent directors have been shortlisted as finalists for the South East's most prestigious business 'Oscars' – the Institute of Directors' South East Director of the Year, sponsored by Pricewaterhouse-Coopers.

Two are in the running for Young Director of the Year titles. Mark Lumsdon-Taylor, 33, of Hadlow College, Tonbridge, is in the category for a turnover of under £5 million; and Carsten Brinkschulte, 41, of Synchronica, Tunbridge Wells, is in the second Young Director category with a turnover of over £5m.

Mike Hill, 62, of Profile Construction Consultants in Aylesford, is also a finalist in the Director of the Year award for turnovers of up to £5m.

His company is project managing the redevelopment of Kent County Cricket Club's St Lawrence Ground in Canterbury. It has a staff of 10 and a turnover of around £1m.

Mr Hill said: "I was surprised to be nominated for the IoD award in the first place and thrilled that I am now one of the 15 finalists, chosen from nearly 300 nominations."

Mr Brinkschulte, chief executive at Synchronica, has

By **TONY PATEY**
tony.patey@kosmedia.co.uk

his sights on becoming the number one supplier of mobile email for the mass market. He has changed his company's strategy to focus on the emerging markets of India, Africa, China and the Middle East.

Mr Lumsdon-Taylor is director of finance and resources at Hadlow College and when he was appointed five years ago it had losses of £500,000. He was just 27, and was head-hunted from the team of auditors brought in to help the college.

Now, profits are in excess of £400,000 annually, and Mr Lumsdon-Taylor has worked with the board to change the culture, business and focus of the organisation, which has an annual growth of 25 per cent.

Hadlow has developed a commercial portfolio and enviable track record. Now Mr Lumsdon-Taylor is tackling issues such as the crucial role the college can play in a rural revival and the promotion of land-based skills under climate change.

One of the judges was Alistair Rose, regional chairman of sponsor PricewaterhouseCoopers. The three Kent finalists now go forward to a gala dinner at the IoD's Pall Mall headquarters, in London, on November 25.


Carsten Brinkschulte


Mark Lumsdon-Taylor


Mike Hill

BUSINESS BRIEFS

GETTING value added when you move home is worth considering.

Thanet-based Paul Davey, who runs Flat Pack Rescue, which puts together furniture for office and home, is now a franchisee for Maidstone-based Talking Truck Company.

Mr Davey said: "Many people like Ikea furniture, but unfortunately the nearest Ikea is at Lakeside, Essex.

"Not only is it far away, many people just can't stand being herded around, so I'll go to Ikea for you, bring the furniture to your home or office, assemble it and take away the packaging."

CANTERBURY charity Home Start took more than 100 local families on fun days out during the summer holidays thanks to an almost £600 donation from the Yorkshire Building Society Charitable Foundation.

The society has branches in Canterbury, Chatham and Bexleyheath. Home Start supports families with young children. Co-ordinator Sam Davis said: "Families often find the summer holidays lonely and stressful, especially if they are on low incomes. For many of the families who join us, this is their only time away from home."


PROUD: Wayne Hodgson with wife Joanna

Wayne's Eagle has landed top award

FOLKESTONE businessman Wayne Hodgson is in the running for a prestigious national prize after being named regional winner of the British Chamber of Commerce 2008 Entrepreneur of the Year award.

Mr Hodgson, of Red Eagle Recruitment, beat competition from dozens of businesses to win the title, sponsored by Staples. Judges said the standard of entries was particularly impressive but that he stood out for his drive, passion, innovative approach and great customer service ethos.

He is no stranger to awards. Mr Hodgson won the Channel Chamber of Commerce most promising new business 2006, and the chamber's business of the year 2007.

He said: "I am thrilled to have reached the national finals. Running your own business is hard work but rewarding. Receiving official recognition somehow makes it even more satisfying."

Caroline Chambers, manager of Channel Chamber, said: "Entrepreneurs have a unique spirit, which often involves putting everything on the line for the love of what they do.

"Wayne is a great example of how this sort of attitude, together with determination and desire, can result in the creation and development of a successful business.

"He recognised an opportunity and has continually gone the extra mile. In the current climate this is even more of an achievement."

He will now go through to the national finals and the chance to win the top prize of £50,000, courtesy of Royal Bank of Scotland.

The results of the Chamber Awards 2008 will be announced at a dinner at the Natural History Museum, in London, on November 27.


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BUSINESS BRIEFS

THE University of Kent is opening its doors to Medway businesses and inviting them to a free event next month.

Called Strengthen Your Business, a range of speakers will demonstrate how companies can work closely with the university and tap its extensive commercial knowledge and resources.

Topics for discussion will include the opportunities for businesses to work with the university through consultancy, student placements and government-funded knowledge transfer partnerships.

Staff training, professional development and lifelong learning are also on the agenda. It will be on November 18, from 5.30pm.

Contact Kent Innovation and Enterprise on 01227 827376 or email enterprise@kent.ac.uk.

A DELEGATION of 20 Japanese members of the Nippon Bus Association started a fact-finding mission tour of Europe with Gillingham-based The Kings Ferry Group.

The 11-day tour will take the group to coach and bus operations in the UK, France, Germany and Austria. Of particular interest to the association was the live tracking facility the coach firm operates providing up to date information to customers via PC or WAP enabled phones or handheld devices.

Buddies more than happy to join the club

MORE than half a million pounds worth of business has been generated in the few weeks since a business buddy group was started in the Medway area.

Called the One Club, it is part of Thames Gateway Chamber of Commerce, and the driving force has been Chris Lee of Strood-based Garden of England Services.

It works by having only one member from each trade, service or profession in its area, and the idea has expanded. Among the businesses which have joined are banks, bookkeepers, solicitors and an industrial abseiling company. Apparently, early morning starts haven't stopped the club growing at a phenomenal rate with branches now in Dartford, Gravesend, Medway and Swale.

Member Jon Martin, managing director of Think Tall Training, said: "We take a long-term approach to networking as it takes time to build relationships with suppliers and potential clients.

"Attendance at the club has benefited us in the form of a management training contract awarded by a fellow member, but just as importantly by sourcing new suppliers."

One Club activities don't stop there, with some members also acting as mentors in Thames Gateway schools.

A higher Gateway profile



PLANNING AHEAD: Thames Gateway

KENT businesses are from now on going to have a higher profile and bigger say in the massive £9 billion Thames Gateway project, one of the largest planned regenerations in western Europe.

A dedicated taskforce has been set up by the regional Chamber of Commerce to monitor information, get involved with the roll-out of the project and reap commercial benefits from opportunities.

Rochester-based Thames Gateway Chamber of Commerce – which covers the whole project region – has launched the Regeneration and Renewal Group to get to grips with the project.

The news comes in the wake of the launch of the joint Economic Development Investment Plan by the South East's three regional development agencies, including the South East England Development Agency (Seeda).

This gives a coherent, joined-up investment plan for the Thames Gateway project for the first time.

The new group will be made up of companies already members of the chamber and will generate communication and discussion.

It will also create and run a Regeneration and Renewal page on the chamber's website and organise regular events to discuss findings.

The group is launching initial findings at an invite-only event on Thursday, November 20, at Bluewater. Key speakers will set out what the Gateway will mean for local businesses and highlight opportunities for tendering.

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Precision adds to productivity

THE University of Greenwich at Medway is teaming up with a leading precision engineering tool-maker to help South East businesses potentially boost productivity by tens of millions of pounds, ***writes Tony Patey***.

It is launching a regional training centre with Renishaw, a Gloucestershire-based company, to showcase machinery and manufacturing systems aimed at making businesses more productive.

The Minister for the South East, Jonathan Shaw, officially opened the Renishaw Centre for Manufacturing Productivity at the Medway Campus this week.

The university's School of Engineering will run two-day courses at the centre, developed by Renishaw to help manufacturing companies increase automation and improve quality.

Engineering Professor Alan Reed said: "We estimate that manufacturing industry in the region stands to gain up to £50 million from increases in productivity.

"It expands our portfolio of services for manufacturing businesses which includes rapid prototyping, product development, electronics manufacturing, powder and solids processing and handling, engineering management and IT."

Renishaw's UK general manager Marc Saunders said: "Globalisation is putting pressure on UK manufacturers to streamline and automate their processes, at a time when engineering skills are in short supply. This centre is part of a national initiative by us to offer training in contemporary best practice to companies of all sizes."

Course material is based on Renishaw's own experiences of developing highly efficient machining processes which enabled it to keep the majority of its manufacturing base in the UK.

The company produces more than 5,000 different precision components at its Stonehouse facility, with an output of over four million parts per year, machined to aerospace tolerances, yet with exceptional levels of automation.

The School of Engineering at the university has been a centre of teaching excellence in the region for more than a century. It has benefited from significant investment since moving to the Medway campus 10 years ago.



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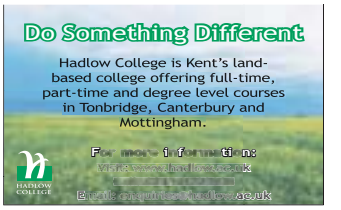
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Biofuels conference is a popular choice

TWENTY-FOUR students from Hadlow College were this week representing the UK at a European Union-funded collaboration conference at the Institution Saint Joseph, Mesnieres en Bray, France.

They joined students from Saint Joseph as well as Belgium and Finland in an ongoing programme encouraging land-based colleges across Europe to work together in the study of bio-fuels and sustainability.

The students are in years one and two of a National Diploma course in countryside management, studying at the Hadlow and Canterbury campuses. So many students wanted to go they had to be selected after submission of a paper on biofuels.

Howard Lee, a lecturer at the college who led the group, said: "We will be visiting forestry sites, learning about bio-fuels in France and exchanging ideas and experiences with other students."

In 2009 the conference will be held at Hadlow College.



CHOSEN FEW: The Hadlow students selected to attend the EU-sponsored collaboration conference in France

Diverse harvest of opportunity

By **TONY PATEY**
tony.patey@kosmedia.co.uk

AN EXCITING farm diversification project is under way on Romney Marsh.

The area, a delight for any environmentalist and geographer, is now home to an experiment that could set a successful business model template for many other farms around the country.

Farmers everywhere are facing fluctuating and uncertain markets for traditional arable or dairy produce, so have been casting their eyes on other ways to boost their income.

Bed and breakfast accommodation, farm shops and now and again token seasonal attractions have been successful, but rarely has a farm unit taken on board the whole diversification idea and gone for it.

The Clifton family at Burmarsh have done just that. Turn off the road into their Haguelands Farm and you are on territory where farming meets retail meets industry.

They have been on the Marsh for three generations, and grandson of the founder, Toby Clifton-Holt (Clifton is his mother's family name) and his highly experienced business manager Kevin Saunders, are just beginning to pan out their plans and strategies.



HOMELY: Quality B&B accommodation is on offer at Haguelands Farm

Toby said : "We opened up the farm shop selling local produce as and when we could in season, in 2006. It was part of an old cart shed which my grandfather Alan built in the 1950s.

"We converted it, and, after sorting out planning permission, we now also have a fishmongers, which sells locally caught fish, which we sub-let, a conference room for groups, organisations and companies, and a bistro."

He added: "We obviously aim to give customers quality local produce which they can't get in the supermarkets, which reduces their carbon footprint.

"Most of the produce is from Kent and Sussex – we're on the border here – such as Kentish apples, strawberries and lettuces – a wide range as and when in season, and out of season we go further afield.

"What we grow near the shop is more for demonstration purposes – fruit, flowers and vegetables. Our whole farm is 2,800 acres, producing peas, oil seed rape, milling wheat and potatoes."

But the Clifton family have taken diversification to a much higher level than usual. They are looking at creating a maize maze, and plots of herbs and other plants – but there's a lot more.

Toby's mother, Anne, runs a five-diamond accolade bed and breakfast, and other members of the family run a dedicated sauna-cum-spa in the garden, and – on another part of the farm – industrial units in converted farm buildings, with a recycling plant for plastic bottles. But the really imaginative part has been a link-up which is starting with local schools. This is a major innovation and certainly something other farms around the country would be looking at.



LOCAL FLAVOUR: The farm shop



CATCH OF THE DAY: The fish counter

Schoolchildren, especially at primary level, will be working on their own mini allotments, separate for each school, with farm staff overseeing them.

Not only will they grow their own crops, they'll be shown how to clean and prepare them – and cook them in the bistro.

They'll also have cookery and basic hygiene lessons, as well as advice on healthy eating.

Plans are in the early stages but it has big potential, not just for the youngsters but also the farm business with increased footfall.

Parents, too, will be encouraged to take part in similar activities, with perhaps a bus or coach being used locally to pick them up, reducing the need to use cars, and returning them in time for when children come out of school. Evening courses have already started.

'Toolkit' shows the way

KENT Downs Rural Advice Service is launching a web-based guide to farm diversification, the Farm Diversification Toolkit, on November 4.

The service is a pathfinder pilot project initiated by Kent County Council and the Kent Downs area of outstanding natural beauty.

When it was launched earlier this year, George Jessel, of Jessel Farms, Brabourne said: "The scheme is proving an excellent tool to support farmers in understanding the planning system.

"I would strongly encourage anyone thinking of diversifying their farm business to contact the KDRAS team."



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Cleaning up with ecology as his USP



ON REFLECTION: Ian Beach has turned Ridge Crest Cleaning into a polished outfit

QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS

Aylesford-based Ridge Crest Cleaning was set up just four years ago, but has already clocked up a massive 2,200 per cent growth in yearly sales to a whopping £2.15 million.

That makes it one of the fastest growing companies in the UK and a big feather – or should that be feather-duster? – in founder **Ian Beach**'s cap.

The firm offers a complete range of services to commercial, public sector, leisure and industrial premises using only environment-friendly and biodegradable products.

That's its big USP – unique selling point – and it achieved a breakthrough in 2005 with the launch of the UK's first green cleaning contract in partnership with Maidstone Borough Council.

Ridge Crest Cleaning's commitment to the environment is now an integral part of the company's ethos, with recycling, paperless working and the use of LPG-powered vehicles forming the day-to-day means of conducting business for the company's 350 employees. They are also working towards becoming carbon neutral by 2010.

This year, in partnership with Welsh rugby captain Ryan Jones, a successful operation was launched in Wales. Mr Beach spoke to KOS Media.

Q What is your business background?

A I've worked in the service industry for over 30 years in a range of senior management roles for some of the UK's leading business organisations. My first managerial positions were at the RAC where I became the organisation's youngest general manager at 26. In the 1990s I held senior roles in two of the UK's top 50 fastest-growing companies.

Q What motivated you to set up Ridge Crest Cleaning?

A There was a point where I recognised that I wanted to run my own business. When I set up Ridge Crest Cleaning in 2004, I had spotted a gap in the market for an environmentally friendly facilities service which was committed to the highest levels of customer service and quality.

It was clear to me that many larger cleaning organisations had acquired the smaller ones at the expense of a quality, personal service.

Clients were crying out for the days when they had a close business relationship with senior people in their cleaning services supplier.

Q Do you find it difficult to get the right staff to work for you?

A I understand what businesses and other organisations are looking for when hiring a cleaning contractor.

I recruit hard-working and trustworthy staff. I believe encouragement and support are the most effective ways of getting the best from people, along with strong management back-up.

I have hand-picked every member of my operational management team. I make sure I look after them with a generous pay and benefits package. In return I expect commitment and high standards in everything they do.

Q Do you have special training for staff?

A We ensure that all our staff are well trained and achieve British Institute Cleaning Science (BICS) standards. Many also receive the Cleaning Operators Proficiency Certificates (COPC).

BICS is the largest independent professional and educational body within the cleaning industry. Equally, my management team is trained to at least NVQ level 2/3 specialising in leadership, motivation and planning, all critical areas of competence in our industry sector.

Q Is going green 'business-friendly'?

A We pioneered sustainable cleaning. We are able to deliver lower costs for all our clients while reducing the impact on the environment.

So yes, it is business-friendly and cost-effective. Use of fewer but more effective products offers up to a 20 per cent cost saving when compared with non-sustainable cleaning contracts. Many of our clients can see an immediate return on investment early in the contract.

Q What are your plans for the future?

A We aim to develop our position within the education sector and build on our 'best value through partnership' approach to continue to expand our operation.

Q What do you sponsor and why?

A I'm a keen sponsor of environmental initiatives and sporting endeavours. We made a substantial donation to the Gift for Learning campaign to complete the new build of Tonbridge Grammar School and supported Skinners School Eco-Schools award-winning project.

At Hamstreet School we sponsored the installation of solar panels for their swimming pool and initiated rugby coaching.

Other initiatives have been set up with the Welsh Rugby Players' Association, Hope for Children, Ospreys rugby; Ashford Rugby Club, Skinners School and Chatham House School. Our nominated charity is Hope For Children.

Q How do you relax?

A My overriding passion is rugby. I also part-own a two-year-old racehorse – Sapphire Prince – and three yearlings from the USA. They are with local trainer John Best.

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ADVERTISER'S ANNOUNCEMENT

Register your land now

REGISTERING your unregistered land now can provide you with peace of mind, save money and even avoid painful neighbour disputes, ***writes Fiona McIntosh***.

Owners of unregistered land are being encouraged by the Land Registry to apply for first registration before it becomes compulsory in 2012 by offering a 25 per cent discount in fees.

Registering the property may not only mean reduced legal fees in future but may also avoid litigation fees should ownership of land be disputed. There has, over time, been more litigation over land disputes than any other branch of law outside of criminal law.

The unregistered landowner is more vulnerable than the registered landowner to anyone who can prove squatters' rights over 12 years or more, commonly over small pockets of land along boundaries but in some instances of whole houses and open land. Agricultural landowners may be most at risk.

Some 82 per cent of freehold and leasehold properties in England and Wales are registered but, surprisingly, only 50 per cent of land is registered. By 2012 the Land Registry aims to complete registration of all titles.

One of the effects of first registration is to clarify the precise extent of your title with a clear and accurate plan based on the up-to-date Ordnance Survey map.

It also clearly identifies the legal owner and the electronic record kept by the Land Registry is far more convenient than having to keep dusty old deeds secure.

Although the property market is going through a difficult period, the requirement for a home information pack (HIP) to be produced by a seller can itself cause delay, even before a buyer has been found, if there are title and boundary uncertainties or complex documents to put in order for an unregistered property.

Registering a property prior to sale can iron out such problems. Mandatory first registration of all land is not yet with us, but voluntarily registering your property now may prove to be more than just cost-effective in the long run.

• ***Fiona McIntosh is a partner in the private client group of Cripps Harries Hall LLP***

Cherry's vision of rosy future

ONE of the South East's longest-standing developers, Alan Cherry, chairman of Countryside Properties, has set out an encouraging vision for future development in North Kent – despite the economic downturn, ***writes Tony Patey***.

He said economic opportunities arising out of the regeneration of the area – includingthe Thames Gateway – would bring major benefits. Countryside Properties is investing £510 million in North Kent both to create new communities and consolidate those already there, because it feels the area is one of the best transport corridors in the UK.


Alan Cherry

In a joint venture with Land Securities, the group has sold its first homes at its Ebbsfleet Valley development, Springhead Park, which will eventually provide more than 600 mixed-tenure homes with a community centre, place of worship, doctor's surgery, and primary school.

Mr Cherry said the new community was already benefiting from its proximity to Ebbsfleet International station and will benefit further when faster domestic services start in late 2009. Countryside Properties' development projects have been hailed by government and industry as best-practice examples, including Greenwich Millennium Village in London, and St Mary's Island, where Ventura Riverside is the company's most eco-friendly scheme to date in Chatham. All the homes have the highest EcoHomes rating of 'excellent'.

Also the group's Waterstone Park, in Greenhithe, was awarded a Commission for Architecture and the Built Environment Building for Life Silver Standard, the seventh CABE Award that Countryside Properties has received, for design and place-making excellence, which is more than any other private developer.

The group is also working with local authorities and registered social landlords such as Moat at Christian Fields in Gravesend. Future projects include further development in Sittingbourne at Great Easthall and new schemes in Chatham and Dartford.



By **LIZ RULE**
Pharon Independent Financial Advisers Ltd

AFTER an unprecedented freeze in lending between UK banks, the Government intervened to avert catastrophe – and one would have to have been on Mars to miss the news coverage surrounding the key issues.

During the crisis last week – and in the weeks before – many people moved cash around because they were scared of losing their savings.

Those with larger deposits fragmented their savings and tried to ensure they were within the Financial Services Compensation Scheme limit, now up to £50,000 per individual, per institution, by splitting their money between bank accounts.

Governments around the world have shown they are not prepared to let the crisis continue and will prop up the system, so much of the imminent risk has, theoretically, been removed. However, some savers will still want the safety net of the compensation scheme.

If you fit into this category, make sure you know the finer details of the scheme. For example:

• Debt with the same institution is subtracted from your savings prior to compensation being calculated, so if you have a £20,000 deposit but a £15,000 loan, you will be covered for £5,000 compensation. This means you will not lose, but it does force you to pay off debt.

• Some offshore bank accounts may not be fully covered by the scheme.

• The compensation is per institution. Be careful that money in different accounts really is with separate institutions. For example Halifax, Intelligent Finance and Birmingham Midshires are linked institutions, so make sure they would be covered independently.

The banks rescue package may have made the City feel a bit less fretful, but the economic indicators are that the country remains in a downturn. It is a time for prudence but, thankfully, not panic.

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MORTGAGE RATES

RT: Rate type R%: Rate percentage L: Loan U: Until OD: Other details

FIXED

ABBEY
RT: FIXED R%: 5.39% L: 70% U: 02/01/2011
OD: £1,759

BRISTOL & WEST
RT: FIXED R%: 5.89% L: 75% U: 31/12/2011
OD: £1,514

WOOLWICH
RT: FIXED R%: 5.99% L: 70% U: 31/01/2019
OD: £1,325

ROYAL BANK OF SCOTLAND
RT: FIXED R%: 5.95% L: 75% U: 31/12/2010
OD: £1,029

OTHER

CHELTENHAM & GLOUCESTER
RT: TRACKER R%: 4.99% L: 75% U: 31/01/2011
OD: £2,634

PRINCIPALITY
RT: TRACKER R%: 5.19% L: 75% U: 31/12/2010
OD: £2,335

SCOTTISH WIDOWS BANK
RT: TRACKER OFFSET R%: 5.25% L: 75% U: 3 YEARS OD: £2,699

NATIONWIDE
RT: TRACKER R%: 5.28% L: 75% U: 2 YEARS
OD: £2,019

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MALE AGED 25		MALE AGED 40		FEMALE AGED 25		FEMALE AGED 40	
LEGAL & GENERAL	£7.55	NORWICH UNION	£18.19	LEGAL & GENERAL	£6.35	NORWICH UNION	£15.01
FRIENDS PROVIDENT	£8.11	LEGAL & GENERAL	£18.35	LV=	£6.52	LEGAL & GENERAL	£15.05
AXA	£8.57	ZURICH	£18.70	FRIENDS PROVIDENT	£6.72	SCOTTISH EQUITABLE	£15.24
LV=	£8.70	SCOTTISH EQUITABLE	£18.72	NORWICH UNION	£6.78	ZURICH	£15.40
SCOTTISH EQUITABLE	£8.70	FRIENDS PROVIDENT	£18.72	LUTINE ASSURANCE	£7.25	FRIENDS PROVIDENT	£15.41
SCOTTISH PROVIDENT	£8.74	AXA	£19.60	SCOTTISH EQUITABLE	£7.27	LUTINE ASSURANCE	£15.56
NORWICH UNION	£8.75	PRUPROTECT	£20.19	AXA	£7.37	PRUPROTECT	£15.94

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Appiah transfer is under FA scrutiny

EBBSFLEET United expect a verdict to be reached next week over the future of striker Kwesi Appiah.

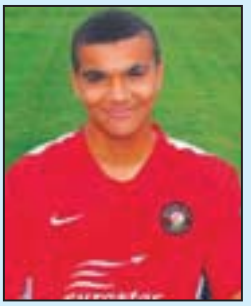
The Football Association were asked by the Kent club to investigate a breach of the seven-day approach rule after League One side Peterborough United announced the signing of the 18-year-old on their website.

Fleet's chief executive David Davies told Kent on Sunday that he hopes to hear from the FA some time next week.

He said: "We are now waiting for Peterborough to respond. I believe they have 14 days to do so. We can't comment any further until the investigation is over."

Appiah is a product of Fleet's youth set-up, together with forward Luke Moore and departed striker John Akinde.

The youth team graduate played just two games for Liam Daish's side, but scored on his debut in a 2-0 league win against Woking last month.



WAY OUT?: Kwesi Appiah

The Kent club say they have not been contacted by Appiah, who is on non-contract terms at Stonebridge Road, since he appeared in the 1-1 draw with Eastbourne Borough on September 23.

Peterborough declined to comment when contacted by Kent on Sunday.

Rallycross return after 12-year gap

LYDDEN Hill race circuit will host a round of the 2009 European Rallycross Championship, bringing the series back to Britain after a 12-year absence.

The Kent circuit were told by motorsport governing body FIA last week, that their bid to host the championship had been successful, beating off competition from Russia and Finland.

The world's most popular rallycross championship last visited the circuit in 1996.

However, before the event can go ahead, circuit owner Amy Doran explained Lydden Hill will have to be extended, which could cost more than £100,000.

She said: "It is a great honour to be able to host the event and bring the championship back to Britain after such a long time without it.



BACK: Great result for Lydden

"We are hoping to attract a crowd of around 30,000 and it may even be on television."

Palmer withdraws circuit from stage due to rising costs

BRANDS Hatch will no longer host the World Superbike Championship after the Kent circuit failed to come to an agreement with the series' organisers.

By TOM HOWARD

The circuit's owner, Jonathan Palmer, was unable to agree a fee with promoters FG Sport, bringing its 16-year association with the championship to an end.

The Kent circuit has hosted a round of the World Superbike Championship since 1993 and the meeting is one of the most popular events of the season, regularly attracting crowds of more than 100,000.

Palmer told Kent on Sunday that Brands Hatch was priced out by the series' organisers and he hopes the fee will be reduced in the future to bring the race back in 2010.

He said: "Obviously we are disappointed. The fees promoters FG Sport were asking were double compared to when we hosted it this year. It would have meant we would have had to put another £15 on the ticket price, which is not fair to the fans. As it is such a huge event it takes up a huge amount of our resources running it. Even to run the campsite will cost £140,000."

Palmer said he has received a lot of feedback from fans supporting his decision and hasn't ruled out hosting the event again in the future.

He said: "We would like to have the World Superbike Championship back at Brands Hatch in 2010, but it will depend on the fees set by FG Sport."

The circuit has produced some of the championship's pivotal moments in the last 16 years.

Carl Fogarty recorded a stunning double win on the way to the 1995 title and two years ago James Toseland repeated the feat.

The loss of the championship is a double blow for Kent's superbike fans as they will miss out on seeing Sheppey rider Shane Byrne's debut season in the World Championship.

The newly-crowned British Superbike champion, who won the world title as a wild card entry in 2003, was shocked by the absence of his home circuit from the calendar.

He said: "Obviously I am gutted that Brands Hatch has been taken off the calendar for next season. It is my home circuit and it will be a shame not to race there. Brands Hatch is part of World Superbike history. I hope an agreement can be made between the organisers and Brands Hatch for the race to come back."



Golf course owners decide to pull out of hosting Ladies English Open

CHART Hills Golf Club will not be hosting the Ladies English Open next year after the course's owners decided to end its partnership with the event.

The Leaderboard Group has hosted the tournament on its courses since 2004.

After four years at the Nick Faldo-designed Chart Hills, near Ashford, it was switched it to The Oxfordshire this season to bring the tournament to a new audience.

After a long legal battle the club, near Thame, was granted planning permission to build a hotel.

With the major redevelopment not due to be completed until 2010, it was felt there would be too much disruption for it to host the Open next year.

Instead of switching it back to Chart Hills, Leaderboard decided to pull out altogether.

Henry Alliss at Azalea, a PR firm which represents Leaderboard, said: "They feel Chart Hills had hosted the event for four years and all the people who had wanted to see it had already been. It was a very successful event, but it was time to move on."

The events at Chart Hills attracted some of the biggest names in women's golf, including Laura Davies and Deal's Karen Stupples.

In 2007, the most recent Open held at Chart Hills, Stupples finished tied second behind Wales' Becky Brewerton.

Pictures: ADY KERRY



TEED-OFF: Charts Hills successfully played host to the Ladies Open

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Man in the middle is under pressure to bridge the gap

Relegation for Kent should give the county's young stars opportunity to shine next season

By **GLENN PEARSON**

KENT Academy coach Phil Relf completes a year in the job this month knowing the pressure is on him to bridge the gap between the club's 2nd XI and the first team.

With Kent relegated from Division One of the County Championship, combined with the loss of Matt Walker and Neil Dexter, the need for new young talent has never been greater.

Problems at filling the number three spot in the Kent batting line-up is yet to be addressed as both James Tredwell and Geraint Jones failed to impress to any great degree when given the opportunity.

Kent captain Rob Key held a meeting with the club management this week, which included Relf, to discuss opportunities for the county's young players.

Relf, who took over from Paul Farbrace last year, knows he will be judged on the quality of players he oversees as they make the transition from 2nd XI cricket to the first-class game.

He told Kent on Sunday: "There would be additional pressure now and rightfully so because if your job is academy director and your goal is to produce players who are going to be match-winners in first-class cricket, and you are not doing that, you are not actually doing your job.

"These things do need time, but with the investment in our youth programme and the academy we have got to start producing players, otherwise something is going wrong somewhere.

"There will be opportunities with us in Division Two, but at the same time, the young lads have got to earn the right to play there rather than be put in just for the sake of it.

"It would be nice for a Sam Northeast, Alex Blake or Warren Lee to be given a run of games, not just judged on one match, so we find out about them."

Joe Denly is the one shining light to have come from the academy as the 22-year-old followed up his excellent first season with another impressive summer.

One young player expected to follow in his footsteps is 19-year-old Northeast.

The Ashford batsman made his first-class debut in the last game of the 2007 season against Durham, but failed to make the side at all this summer.

He performed well for the 2nd XI, scoring a century against a strong Sussex side and is due to tour South Africa with England under-19s this winter.

Relf believes he will be given an opportunity to stake a claim in the Kent side next year.

"Sam is the one people have been speaking about and that creates a little bit of added pressure to some extent," he said.

"Rob Key has been pro-active since relegation and in the last two days we talked about plans for next year.

The way he was talking it could be a good time to be a young player at Kent because there will be opportunities to perform.

"I would like to think next year that Sam has a fantastic opportunity to play and be given a decent run in the first team when perhaps the form doesn't come from the other guys."

While his job entails enhancing young talent at the club, Relf also oversees 2nd XI cricket at St Lawrence.

Hungry

There has been criticism of the structure of the 2nd XI season from the club's fans on Kent's bulletin board, as they played just seven County Championship games this year.

The academy director admits the county's second string did not play enough cricket during the summer and that needs to be looked at.

He said: "In the second team you play once every two weeks. The advantage of that is that it keeps players hungry because for batters, it makes them value their wicket, while bowlers are kept fresh.

"But if you look at the amount of overs our young bowlers bowled in second team cricket it is nowhere near enough. Ryan McLaren bowled something like 450 overs whereas Warren Lee in the second team bowled only 120 overs all summer."

Kent's 2nd XI play the least amount of cricket of all the counties with the club only travelling as far as Bournemouth to play Hampshire.

According to Relf, the ECB are looking at improving the situation so that counties play more three-day cricket and may introduce a Twenty20 competition next season.



Picture: PHIL HOUGHTON

PROSPECTS: Kent Academy coach Phil Relf (above) hopes that the likes of young cricketers such as Sam Northeast (below left) and Matt Coles will be given a chance





Pictures: ADY KERRY

News and sport updated daily online
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Grant hits all-time high by defeating world number two

ADRIAN Grant is on the verge of his highest-ever world ranking after knocking out number two seed Gregory Gaultier in the World Open last week, ***writes Tom Howard***.

The Bromley-born squash player moved up to number 13 in the world after progressing to the quarter-finals of the biggest tournament of the season in Manchester.

Grant's run in the competition was ended at that stage by runner-up, Karim Darwish, from Egypt, who beat the 28-year-old 12-10, 11-7, 11-7.

However, Grant was more than happy with his performance in the previous match, which saw him defeat Gaultier in a gruelling five-game match.



BIG HIT: Adrian Grant

Grant saved three game balls in the third game before taking a 2-1 lead in the match. Gaultier hit back in the fourth to level with the loss of just a single point.

It was tight throughout the decider before the favourite reached match-ball at 10-8. Grant saved this, and two further match-balls, before clinching his career-best result by beating Gaultier 9-11, 12-10, 14-12, 1-11, 13-11 after 98 minutes.

He told squashinfo.com: "It is my best result by far. This is a massive step for me. His [Gaultier] record here is unbelievable.

"He came out firing in the fourth and before I knew it, it was all over. But he's number two in the world, so he must have felt the pressure towards the end."

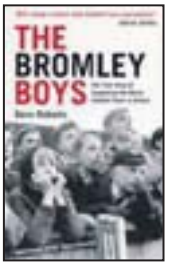
Next up for Grant was a trip to the Qatar Classic, which began yesterday.

New book a must for supporters of non-league teams

COLD winter nights watching your side struggle to string two passes together. Sound familiar?

For those of us that know non-league football all too well it can often be a lonely experience, watching a game where the crowd queuing for the bus on the way to the match seemed bigger than the one inside the ground.

For 14-year-old Dave Roberts, watching his beloved Bromley was the highlight of his week.



It didn't matter that his side were on a barren run, which included losing 21 of their last 22 games and eventually coming bottom of the league, having conceded more than 100 goals over the season.

In his new book, The Bromley Boys, Roberts, now aged 53, gives a fascinating insight into following his side during the 1969/70 season in the Isthmian League.

The author epitomises what is so good about non-league football as he travels from Wealdstone to St Albans to watch his favourite team, while all his school friends were more interested in the top teams such as Arsenal.

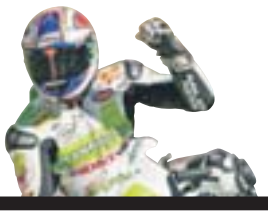
The Bromley Boys provides a true reflection of life as a non-league football fan and the blind faith shown in one's team.

With laugh-out-loud moments, as young Roberts reveals his love for Bromley, sheepskin coats, skinheads and his best mate's big sister, The Bromley Boys is well worth a read.

Published by Portico Books, priced £10.99.

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MOTORSPORT
Brands Hatch not staging World Championship Superbikes **78**





CRICKET
Coach trying to help give youth a chance **79**

Nervous times as two of Kent's top clubs face closure





FINAL WHISTLE?

TWO of Kent's biggest football clubs are on the verge of going out of business due to thousands of pounds owed in tax bills.

EXCLUSIVE

By **GLENN PEARSON & DAVID PRITCHARD**

Kent on Sunday can exclusively reveal that Folkestone Invicta are up to £250,000 in the red, of which half is a tax bill, while Margate are believed to owe HM Customs and Revenue a figure in the region of £50,000.

The Thanet club have already been served a winding up petition and appeared in court last month where they have been given until November 26 to come up with a plan to write off their debt.

The Margate Independent Supporters Association have launched a pledge initiative to try and help the club in its hour of need, but a spokesman conceded that it is unlikely to raise anywhere near the figure required.

He said: "I'm confident we will get something but it's not going to put a big hole in the £50,000 owed. We just have to put our faith in the club's directors and hope it will be saved."

The club released a statement this week urging football supporters and businesses to help and explained why they have run into financial trouble.

It read: "The general state of the economy has had a major impact on the club's very loyal and supportive sponsors, with more than 60 per cent of the club's income from these areas withdrawn or cancelled."

Folkestone Invicta held a crisis meeting with the club's players and supporters after yesterday's game with Corinthian Casuals, to reveal the extent of their £250,000 debt.

The majority of the Seasiders' players were due to disband after that game as the club are unable to pay them during this troubled time.

Mark Jenner is acting as a consultant for Invicta after gaining experience of working in a similar situation as chairman at Ashford Town in 2001 when the club also owed £250,000.

Jenner told KoS he was "surprised" Invicta's board seemed totally unaware of the situation and had signed almost the whole squad on contracts they couldn't afford, following relegation from the Ryman Premier League last season.

Asked whether the club was in danger of folding, he said: "Very much so. If I don't sort this out in the next few weeks then we would have no alternative to become insolvent.

"It's such a large number it would be fatal to the club if it can't be sorted out."

Insolvency practitioner Andrew White works in the field of corporate insolvency in Kent for Baker Tilley. He believes the current economic climate will make it even harder for football clubs to get out of trouble.

He said: "In the last few months there has been a lack of spending on leisure activities and this hits all clubs, but especially the smaller ones who are seeing a reduction in people coming through the turnstiles.

"Sponsorship may also be under pressure as businesses have their own cutbacks."

As gates decrease across the county and sponsors and advertisers tighten their belts with a recession on the cards, the situation is only likely to get worse, according to White.

Directors of football clubs are often accused of ruling with their hearts rather than their heads and a number of teams across the county will be walking a financial tight line over the course of the next year.

White added: "I suspect we will see this happen across the football world from top to bottom. We will see clubs large and small under pressure.

"The top teams in the Premiership will be immune for a while, but the teams a bit lower down will run into trouble, as can be seen at West Ham. This will have a rippling effect in all walks of life."

Visit the club's websites for details of how to make a donation.

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No complaints as Crofts goes on transfer list

GILLINGHAM are hoping to cash-in on Andrew Crofts after boss Mark Stimson put the midfielder on the transfer list.

The Gills manager insists he has a good relationship with Crofts despite making him surplus to requirements just three weeks after stripping him of the captaincy.

Earlier this month KoS exclusively revealed Stimson expected the 24-year-old to leave on a free transfer next summer when his contract expired.

With the Wales international falling out of favour after a prolonged slump in form, Gills are looking to sell now, which would help lighten the club's straining wage bill.

Stimson admitted he was disappointed in Crofts' reaction to the news.

He said: "I'm baffled really, but that's Andrew. I would have wished he was banging on my door and saying 'I want to get back in that team', but we are all different. I suggested we do this and he just said 'okay'."

The Gills manager fell out with a group of senior players last season, some of which were very critical of his methods, but Stimson firmly denied history was repeating itself.

He said: "With Andrew it's totally different, he's a lovely lad. I hope he goes on to fulfil his dreams and plays 50 or 100 times for Wales and plays at the highest level possible."

Crofts is the longest-serving player in the Gills squad, making his debut in 2001 after graduating from the club's youth-set-up.

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